TWO HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS OF THE MAKING NEW FOREST in *Hampſhire*, By King *William* the *Conqueror*; AND RICHMOND NEW PARK in *Surry*, By King *Charles the Firſt*.

CONTAINING,

I.

An Enquiry into the Origin of *Foreſts*, *Chaces*, *Purlieus*, *Warrens*, and *Parks*, and the cruel and unjuſt Laws that were firſt made for the Government of thoſe Places.

Some Account of the Reigns of the Kings, from *William* I. to *Edward* I. ſo far as relates to Foreſt Laws, and that of obtaining the two Great Charters.

II.

The Hiſtory of the Oppoſition that was raiſed againſt making the *Park*, and the Troubles that immediately enſued. Extracted from Lord *Clarendon* and other Hiſtorians.

An Account of the Privileges the Subjects enjoy'd after the Park was made, to the Time of putting in Execution certain Meaſures for ſhutting it up.

Addreſs'd to the CITIZENS of *London*.
And adorned with a VIEW of *Richmond* PARK.

Unleſs Corruption firſt deject the Pride
And guardian Vigour of the Free-born Soul,
All crude Attempts of Violence are vain:
For firm within, and while at Heart untouch'd,
Ne'er yet by Force was FREEDOM *overcome.* THOMPSON.

LONDON:
Printed for M. COOPER, in *Pater-noſter Row*. 1751.
(Price One Shilling.)

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

To the Right Honourable

Francis Cockayne, Eſq; Ld Mayor,

THE

COURT of ALDERMEN,

AND

COMMON COUNCIL

Of the CITY of *LONDON*.

GENTLEMEN,

AS theſe HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS ſhow in ſome meaſure the Struggles that have been made from time to time by our Anceſtors, in Support of the glorious Cauſe of Liberty, and as the Citizens of *London* have, in the moſt difficult Times, particularly diſtinguiſhed themſelves therein — I am embold'ned to hope you will pardon the Freedom

Freedom I have taken in inſcribing this ſmall Collection to You.

That the Trade and Navigation of the City of *London* may continue and proſper, is the ardent Wiſh of,

Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient

Humble Servant,

Richmond,
Jan. 21.
1751.

The COMPILER.

A N

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

OF MAKING

New Foreſt in *Hampſhire*, &c.

NOTHING has ever been more diſagreeable to the *Engliſh* Nation, than the laying any Reſtraint on their natural Liberty, or the depriving them of Rights or Privileges, to which they claim a Title, either from *Law*, *Preſcription*, or *Cuſtom*.

It is certain that nothing can be more detrimental to a Nation than that of committing the Care and Government of Foreſts, Parks, &c. to Perſons who do not rightly conſider the true Intereſt of the Public, eſpecially when they lie contiguous to Towns; for from thence ſpring many Evils obvious to all that live near thoſe Places. The great Complaints that have been made for ſome time againſt many who have got into their Hands the Government of Parks, &c. touching their denying the Subjects the Privileges they before enjoyed, both in reſpect to Hunting and a free Paſſage thro' ſome of thoſe Places — *give Riſe to the following Enquiry* into the Origin of Foreſts, Parks, &c. the cruel and unjuſt Laws that have been made, by ſome of our arbitrary Princes, relating to the Government thereof, and by what Ways and Means *New Foreſt* in *Hampſhire*, and *Richmond New Park* in *Surry*, were made, (tho' greatly oppos'd by the People) the one by *William* called *the Conqueror*, and the other by King *Charles the Firſt*.

Mr. *Manwood*, who wrote a Treatiſe intitled *The Law*

of the Foreſt, in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, ſpeaking of the Antiquity of Foreſts in general, thus remarks: "That it appears from ſundry antient Hiſto-
" ries, as in *Concordantia Hiſtoriarum*, and others, that
" Foreſts have been always in this Realm from the firſt
" Time that the ſame was inhabited, and was generally
" accounted a Franchiſe of ſuch noble and princely
" Pleaſure, that it is incident only to the Crown and
" royal Dignity of a Prince, and for that Reaſon there
" have been particular Laws relating to *Foreſts*, which
" however were very little known until King *Canu-*
" *tus*'s Time, about 1016, who, taking great Delight
" in *Foreſts*, did eſtabliſh certain *Laws* and *Cuſtoms*
" for the better Government of his *Foreſts*.† And alſo it
" appeareth in the Book of *St. Edward the Confeſſor*,
" which

† I. A *Foreſt* is a certain Territory, or Circuit of woody Grounds and Paſtures, known in it's Bounds and Privileges for the peaceable Abode of Wild Beaſts and Fowls of Foreſt, Chaſe, and Warren, to be under the King's Protection for his princely Delight, repleniſhed with Beaſts of Venary or Chaſe, and great Covert of Vert. *Manhood* gives us the particular Laws, Privileges and Officers belonging to Foreſts, which are of ſo great Antiquity in *England*, as Mr. *Jacob* ſays, that no Record or Hiſtory makes any Mention of their firſt Erections, ſave that of *New-Foreſt* and *Hampton-Court* erected by *Henry* VIII. But *Polidore Virgil*, in his Book *de Inventoribus Rerum*, ſaith, that Foreſts, Parks, and Warrens, were firſt made by *Fulvius Herpinus*; which was before the Birth of *Chriſt*.—Still, tho' the King may erect a Foreſt in his own Ground or Waſte, Sir *Edward Coke*, in his 4th *Inſt.* p. 300, informs us, that the King may not do it in the Ground of other Perſons without their Conſent and Agreements for that Purpoſe, which ought to be confirmed by Act of Parliament. *Crompt.* in his *Juriſdict.* fol. 148, ſays, a Foreſt cannot be in the Hands of a Subject, but it forthwith loſeth it's Name, and becomes a Chaſe; but, fol. 197, he ſays, a Subject may be Lord or Owner of a Foreſt; which, tho' it ſeems a Contradiction, yet both Sayings are in ſome ſort true; for the King may give or alienate a Foreſt to a Subject, ſo as when it is once in a Subject's Hands, it loſeth the Property of a Foreſt, becauſe the Courts called the Juſtice-Seat, *&c.* do forthwith vaniſh; none being able to make a Lord Chief Juſtice in Eyre of the Foreſt but the King. Yet it may be granted in ſo large a Manner, as there may be Attachments, Swaincote, *&c.* and a Court equivalent to a Juſtice-Seat.

" which Book is the very Root and original Ground " of all the antient Laws of *England*, that the ſame " King *Edward the Confeſſor* did confirm the Laws " made by King *Canutus* the *Dane*."

Mr. *Carte*, as well as all other our Hiſtorians, who have ſpoke of Hunting, agree, that it has always been much uſed both by the *Britons* and *Saxons*, and that they carefully preſerved every Convenience in their Power to gratify their Deſire therein; for at that Time the whole Country was near full of all Sorts of Game; for the *Britons* lived in a wild way, moving from Place to Place with their Flocks and Herds, never troubling themſelves with incloſing and improving Lands, but uſed them in common, as well for their Diverſion of Hunting,

Seat. *Manwood*, Part II. C. 3. 4.

It is ſaid that, beſides the *New Foreſt*, there are 68 other Foreſts in *England*, and thirteen Chaſes. The four principal Foreſts are, *New Foreſt* on the Sea, *Shirewood Foreſt* on the *Trent*, *Dean Foreſt* on the *Severn*, and *Windſor Foreſt* on the *Thames*. Every Foreſt is a Chaſe, but every Chaſe is not a Foreſt. *Wood*, *Inſt.* p. 207, tells us, It is not lawful to make a Chaſe, Park or Warren, without Licenſe under the Broad Seal. A Chaſe is governed by the Common-Law, ſays Sir *Edward Coke*, and ſuch as were never Foreſts, cannot have any Purlieu.

II. *Purlieu* is a Place entire or exempt from the Foreſt, and contains ſuch Grounds as *Henry* II, *Richard* II, or K. *John*, added to Foreſts over other Mens' Grounds; and were diſforeſted by Force of the Statute of Charter Foreſt, C. 1. 3.

Notwithſtanding the Purlieu is exempt from the Foreſt, yet the Purlieu-Man is in ſome Caſes reſtained, as *Nelſon* affirms; for he muſt not hunt in his own Purlieu in the Night, nor on a *Sunday*, nor in the Defence Month, nor oftener than three Days in a Week, nor with any other Company than his own Servants, nor 40 Days before and after the King's Hunting: He muſt not foreſtall or hunt Deer out of Seaſon. All which *Nelſon* ſays, has been taken for Law ever ſince *Purlieus* were firſt made.

III. A *Chaſe*, in it's general Signification, is a great quantity of woody Ground, lying open and privileged for wild Beaſts and wild Fowl; ſuch as Buck, Doe, Fox, &c. and, in common and legal Senſe, to all the Beaſts of the Foreſt. 1 *Inſt.* 223. A Chace differs from a Foreſt in this, becauſe it may be in the Hands of a Subject, which a Foreſt, in its proper and true Nature, cannot; and from a Park, for it is not incloſed, has a greater Compaſs,

Hunting, as that of feeding their Cattle in the Manner *Nature* offered them.

After the Encloſure of the fertile Lands by the *Saxons*, the wild Beaſts, naturally avoiding Neighbours from whom they dreaded and felt Harm, fled into the woody and deſert Tracts, where they found Shelter, and met with leſs Diſturbance in their Feedings; and theſe coming to be filled with great Plenty of all Sorts of Game, formed all thoſe Extents of Ground which were afterwards called *Foreſts*. Theſe having never been diſpoſed of in the Diſtribution of Lands among the *Saxons*, and having no certain Proprietor, were all deemed to belong to the Crown; for the ſame Reaſon that all Wrecks at Sea and Eſcheats of Lands, for which no Heir or Owner appeared, were reputed to be ſo veſted.

paſs of Ground, more variety of Game and Officers. It is, in ſhort, of a middle Nature, between a Foreſt and a Park, being commonly leſs than a Foreſt, and not endowed with ſo many Liberties, as holding Courts, *&c.* but one may have a Chaſe within a Foreſt, and if he kill or hunt any Stag or Red Deer, or other Beaſts of a Foreſt, he is finable. 1 *Jones's Rep.* 27 *S.*

IV. *Warren* is a Franchiſe or Liberty by Grant of the King, or Preſcription for Preſervation of Beaſts, as Hares, Conies, *&c.* Fowls, as Partridge, *&c.* A Free Warren may lie open, and one may have a Warren in another Man's Land. *Nelſon.*

V. A Park *Manwood* deſcribes to be a Place of Privilege for Beaſts of Venary, and other wild Beaſts of the Foreſt and of the Chaſe; and differs from a Chaſe or Warren, in that it muſt be encloſed, and may not lie open; if it does, 'tis a good Cauſe of Seizure into the King's Hands as a thing forfeited, as a free Chace is if it be encloſed. Beſides, the Owner cannot have an Action againſt ſuch as hunt in his Park if it lies open; and it is ſaid, there is above ſeven hundred Parks in *England.*

Mr, *Otway* in one of his Plays, thus prettily deſcribes the Deer in a Park:

See where the Deer trot after one another,
Male, Female, Father, Daughter, Mother, Son,
Brother and Siſter, mingled all together;
No Diſcontent they know, but in delightful
Wildneſs and Freedom, luſty Health and Innocence,
Enjoy their Portion. If they ſee a Man,
How will they turn together all, and gaze
Upon the Monſter.——

veſted. This Right was never diſputed; but our *Saxon* Kings only made uſe of it for their Pleaſure, never offering, 'till the Time of the Uſurper *Harold*, to reſtrain (except only as to their own Deer) either the Nobility or Gentry, bordering on the Foreſts, from taking the Diverſion of Hunting in them, and amuſing themſelves in the Queſt of the Superfluity of that Game, which it was their Intereſt, and neceſſary for their Sport, to preſerve: Or the Farmers, in adjoining Villages, from uſing the Herbage thereof for the Paſture of their Cattle.

1066. *William* the *Conqueror* himſelf took much Delight in Hunting, and had ſuch a Fury for gratifying that Paſſion, that he reſerved all Hunting and Sporting in his Foreſts to himſelf, or to ſuch as he thought proper to indulge: For he denied his *Norman* Barons a Liberty which the *Saxon* Nobility had always enjoyed. And if it happened that any Offenders did enter into thoſe privileged Places, and did any Treſpaſs therein, they were puniſhed at the King's Will and Pleaſure, and not by any Law certain.

This *Conqueror* was more merciful to Beaſts than to Mankind; for he commanded that none ſhould preſume to hunt, or otherwiſe catch or deſtroy his Deer (as he called them) under the Penalty of grevious pecuniary Mulcts, and other ſevere Puniſhments, as being blinded, *&c.* "And (as Mr. *Holingſhead* ſpeaks) to "bring the greater Number of Men in Danger of "theſe his penal Laws, he contrived to increaſe his "Deer, and enlarge the Precincts of his Foreſts that "Men might be provoked to kill them in Defence of "their Corn and Paſtures, and to be liable to the "foreſaid Mulcts."

Carte, upon this, ſays, "That if we conſider the "new Laws, ever unknown before in this Nation, and "very different from the Mildneſs of the *Saxon* Go-"vernment, which he inſtituted upon this Occaſion;

"(the

" (the killing of a Deer being puniſhed with putting
" out the Eyes of the Guilty, and a like Prohibition
" iſſued with Regard to Hares as well as wild Boars)
" we ſhall be at a Loſs whether to aſcribe them to the
" Imperiouſneſs of the *Conqueror*'s Nature, to his in-
" ordinate Paſſion for Hunting, or to the Avarice of
" his Temper, which the exceſſive Fines, appearing
" vaſtly to outweigh either the Offence or the Damage
" impoſed upon Treſpaſſes committed within the Fo-
" reſts, ſeemed calculated to gratify."

Both before and after the *Conqueror* had thus treated his *Norman* and *Engliſh* Subjects, he formed another Project, which was ſtill more injurious to his People, and that was (though he had ſeveral large Foreſts) the making a *New Foreſt* in *Hampſhire*, which Project he immediately put in Execution, an Account of which almoſt unheard-of Cruelty I ſhall relate, from ſome of our Hiſtorians who have wrote concerning this unjuſt Act. " *The Conqueror* knew, (ſays one of them) that
" the *Engliſh* took much Delight in Hunting; no-
" thing could more diſpleaſure them than to be
" abridged of that Liberty, which, with their Eſtates,
" he took away; in ſhort, this Prince's Paſſion for
" making this new Foreſt was ſuch, that he depopu-
" lated above 30 Miles of the Country in *Hampſhire*,
" turning out all the Inhabitants, deſtroying the
" Houſes, Gardens, and even Churches, which ſtood
" in that Tract of Land, in order to make it a Deſert
" fit for the Habitation of wild Beaſts, and gave it the
" Name of the *New Foreſt*,"— which it retains to this Day, tho' it is near 700 Years old; with this Addition however, that it remains to Poſterity a Monument of the Cruelty, Injuſtice, and Tyranny of this *Norman* Prince; for the Country was, before he turned it into a Foreſt, well inhabited, having many Villages and Towns, to which belonged 36 Mother Churches, all which he deſtroyed, turning the poor Inhabitants to ſeek themſelves Habitations where they could find them.

Walter

Walter Mapes, who lived in the next Age, makes this hiſtorical Reflection upon this Deed of *the Conqueror*. " He took away much Land from God and " Men, and converted it to the Uſe of wild Beaſts " and the Sport of Dogs, demoliſhing 36 Mother " Churches, and driving away the Inhabitants of as " many Towns and Villages."

Mr. *Cambden* thinks, that this Foreſt was ſomething above 30 Miles in Compaſs, and that it was great Cruelty in *William* to deſtroy the Churches and Dwellings of ſo great an Extent; but he comes far ſhort of the Truth; for the Ground the King afforeſted was not much leſs in Compaſs (as other Authors have affirmed) than 50 Miles. From his Care and Proviſion for Beaſts, *the Conqueror* was by ſome called the Father of wild Beaſts; and by others it was ſaid of him, it was better to have been his Stag than his Subject.

And all Hiſtorians agree, " That, no Circumſtance " of the *Norman Conqueror*'s, or rather Tyrant's Reign, " rendered him ſo odious to his new Subjects, as his " having thus arbitrarily taken ſo vaſt a Tract of Land " in a fertile and well inhabited Country to form this " his Foreſt; for one would have thought that the " Devaſtation he had before made by his former Sei- " zures, that he had no Occaſion to make a *New Fo-* " *reſt*:" But, ſays one of our Hiſtorians, " He had a " greater Deſign than to enlarge his Sports, for it " was rather believed that he did it to make it more " eaſy for his *Normans* to paſs into *England*, in caſe of " any new Troubles, in regard the *New Foreſt* lies " oppoſite to *Normandy*:" But others were of Opinion, he did this Act to enable him to raiſe Money by Methods very unjuſt.

Mr. *Carte*, on the other Hand, thinks, " That, if the " Foreſt had been made for the political Reaſon aſſign'd, " it ought to have been made earlier in his Reign than is " generally ſuppoſed, before *England* was entirely ſub- " dued; and all this to be done towards the latter End

" of his Reign, when (as the *Saxon* Chronicles inſinuate)
" he was abſolute Maſter of the Kingdom, and the No-
" bility ruin'd, baniſh'd, or deſtroy'd; all which was
" effected in his firſt five Years; a Space of Time full
" of Troubles and Difficulties. Yet, whenever it was
" that he made this Foreſt, Hiſtorians have generally
" placed it at the latter End of his Reign, tho' per-
" haps their Reaſon for doing ſo might be, becauſe his
" *Foreſt Laws* were about that Time publiſhed.

Mr. *Pope* thus elegantly deſcribes part of the *Conqueror*'s Actions, in his *Windſor Foreſt*, a Poem:

——— *The Land appear'd in Ages paſt,*
A dreary Deſert and a gloomy Waſte,
To ſavage Beaſts and **ſavage Laws a Prey,*
And Kings more furious and ſevere than they;
Who claim'd the Skies, diſpeopled Air and Floods,
The lonely Lords of empty Wilds and Woods:
Cities laid Waſte, they ſtorm'd the Dens and Caves,
(For wiſer Brutes were backward to be Slaves.)
What could be free, when lawleſs Beaſts obey'd,
And ev'n the Elements a Tyrant ſway'd?
In vain kind Seaſons ſwell'd the teeming Grain,
Soft Show'rs diſtill'd, and Suns grew warm in vain;
The Swain with Tears his fruſtrate Labour yields,
And famiſh'd dies amidſt his ripen'd Fields.
What Wonder then, a Beaſt or Subject ſlain
Were equal Crimes in a deſpotic Reign?
Both, doom'd alike, for ſportive Tyrants bled,
But that the Subject ſtarv'd, the Beaſt was fed.
Proud Nimrod *firſt the bloody Chace began,*
A mighty Hunter, and his Prey was Man:
Our haughty Norman *boaſts that barb'rous Name,*
And makes his trembling Slaves the royal Game.
The § *Fields are raviſh'd from th' induſtrious Swains,*
From Men their Cities, and from Gods their Fanes:
The

* Foreſt Laws.

§ Alluding to the new Foreſt, and the Tyrannies exercis'd there by *William the Firſt.*

The levell'd Towns with Weeds lie cover'd o'er;
The hollow Winds thro' naked Temples roar;
Round broken Columns claſping Ivy twin'd;
O'er Heaps of Ruin ſtalk'd the ſtately Hind;
The Fox obſcene to gaping Tombs retires,
And ſavage Howlings fill the ſacred Quires.
Aw'd by his Nobles, by his Commons curſt,
Th' Oppreſſor rul'd tyrannic where he durſt,
Stretch'd o'er the Poor and Church his iron Rod,
And ſerv'd alike his Vaſſals and his God.
Whom ev'n the Saxon † *ſpar'd, and bloody* Dane,
The wanton Victims of his Sport remain.
But ſee, the Man who ſpacious Regions gave
A Waſte for Beaſts, himſelf deny'd a Grave!
Stretch'd on the Lawn, his ſecond Hope ſurvey,
At once the Chaſer, and at once the Prey:
Lo Rufus, *tugging at the deadly Dart,*
Bleeds in the Foreſt, like a wounded Hart.

As to the *Conqueror*, he had not much Pleaſure in this his *New Foreſt*, for, during almoſt his whole Reign, Commotions and Troubles were rais'd againſt him, both in *Normandy* and *England*: The firſt by his

† Mr. *Somervile*, in his *Chace*, a Poem, ſays, The *Conqueror* taught the *Saxons* with Horn and Voice to call forth and chear the Hounds for the Chace: Which he thus poetically relates,

——— *In this Iſle remote*
Our painted Anceſtors were ſlow to learn,
To Arms devote, of the politer Arts
Nor ſkill'd nor ſtudious; 'till from Neuſtria's *Coaſts*
Victorious William, *to more decent Rules*
Subdu'd our Saxon *Fathers, taught to ſpeak*
The proper Dialect, with Horn and Voice
To chear the buſy Hound, whoſe well-known Cry
His liſt'ning Peers approve with joint Acclaim.
From him ſucceſſive Huntſmen learn'd to join
In bloody ſocial League, the Multitude
Diſpers'd, to ſize, to ſort their various Tribes,
To rear, feed, hunt, and diſcipline the Pack.

Son *Robert*, and the latter was owing to his tyrannical Government of his *Engliſh* Subjects: And at his Death, *September* the 9th, 1087, his *Corpſe was deny'd a Burial 'till the Ground was paid for where he was interr'd.

Echard, in his Character of this Prince, ſays, "He "was a Promoter of Learning, and all that was great;" then ſpeaks of his Juſtice, Piety, and Generoſity.

But *Salmon* examines into *Echard*'s fine Character of this Prince, as follows: "We find him not only diſ-"poſing of all Poſts of Honour and Profit among his "*Normans*, but dividing the very Eſtates of the *Eng-*"*liſh* among them; and what will remain as an eter-"nal Badge of his Tyranny, and the Slavery of the "*Engliſh*, it was he who inſtituted the *Curfeu-Bell*, "and condemned them to live without Fire and Can-"dle after Eight in the Evening: And notwithſtand-"ing his Oath to obſerve the *Confeſſor*'s Laws, that he in-"troduced the *Norman*'s Laws, Language, and Forms "of Pleading, are Facts not to be diſputed; and that "terrible

* An old *Engliſh* Poet thus deſcribes this King's Actions:

Like a Wood-Lion (his own Word) did fare
Againſt the Engliſh, *whom he did not ſpare;*
Or Young, or Old, that were of Worth or Place;
And for the reſt, he yok'd with Bondage baſe.

And as he toil'd the Land with this Unreſt,
So taſted he his Share of Miſery,
Robert *rebels (a Bird of his own Neſt)*
The Normans *break forth into Mutiny,*
The oppreſſed Engliſh *hatch Conſpiracy;*
Always in foreign Brawls, or civil Strife,
And ſo waſtes forth a wretched weary Life.

Nay, Death, the Period-maker of all Moan,
Even againſt Nature follows him with Spight;
The mighty Prince, by Thouſands waited on,
Being dead, is left alone, forſaken quite;
No Son, no Friend, to do him his laſt Rite:
None that vouchſaf'd to give him Burial;
But unregarded lay, deſpis'd by all.

Nay

" terrible Waſte and Deſtruction he cauſed for three-
" ſcore Miles together in the *North* of *England*, and
" upon the *Sea Coaſts*, whereby great Part of *England*
" remained uncultivated and uninhabited for upwards
" of nine Years, are no great Arguments of a merciful
" Diſpoſition: Nay, that theſe Actions proceeded ra-
" ther from a barbarous and ſavage Temper, inur'd to
" Rapine and Devaſtation, than from any juſt Fears,
" fully appears. And ſtrange it is that our Hiſtorians,
" who ſo much celebrate his Virtue and Piety, ſhould
" furniſh us with no Inſtances of Remorſe, no Satisfac-
" tion ever offered for all theſe repeated Acts of Im-
" piety, Injuſtice and Oppreſſion, if he was really that
" pious Prince they make him. But the Fortunate are
" ever favourably dealt with: Power and Succeſs, in
" the Opinion of the Vulgar, ſupply the Place of
" every Virtue; nay, there is no ſuch Thing, in their
" Opinion as Virtue in Diſtreſs. Arms, and the glit-
" tering Pageantry of Empire, attract the Eyes and
" Devotion of the People. Meekneſs, Temperance,
" Fortitude, and other humble Virtues, paſs ſilently
" unregarded: Sacred Writ, indeed, ſays, *Greater is*
" *he that rules his Spirit, than he who takes a City.*
" But which of our prophane Hiſtorians are of that
" Mind? Their Encomiums are generally reſerved for
" ſome

Nay more, the Ground where he ſhould be interr'd,
Anſelme, *yet farther (his dead Bones to fright)*
Claimed as his own (a Thing ſcarce ever heard)
And for the Prince, there dead, by lawleſs Might,
Had warn'd him out of that which was his Right.
On God's Behalf he did forbid them all,
Within his Earth to give him Burial.

Nor would he ceaſe the Challenge he had made;
Nor yet durſt they his Corpſe inter therein,
Untill a Sum of Money was defray'd,
With which they paid their Ranſom for their Sin;
So much ado had the great Prince to win,
That which none doth the pooreſt Wretch deny,
A Bed of Peace where his dead Bones might lye.

" ſome mighty Monarch, ſome valiant General or il-
" luſtrious Hero, as they ſtile 'em; many of whom,
" when look'd on with an impartial Eye, appear to
" be the greateſt Plagues and Deſtroyers of Mankind."
——In ſhort, this laſt Character ſeems to be true and genuine, and that Mr. *Echard* and his Coadjutors were greatly out in their florid and ſmooth Deſcription of this rough *Norman* Prince.

1087. *William Rufus* ſucceeded his Father, and is recorded in Hiſtory for the Severity of his Proceedings againſt all that hunted in his Foreſts; inflicting even Death upon ſuch as killed a Stag or a Buck therein, without any other Law than that of his own Will. But mark the End of this Prince.

He loſt his Life in the *New Foreſt* * his Father had made, (and where *Richard* his Nephew, a natural Son of Duke *Robert*, had a little before been killed) owing to the following Accident:

Sir *Walter Tyrrell*, a *French* Knight born at *Pontoiſe*, came over to *England*; and, being introduced to the King, was kindly received. This Gentleman being reputed an excellent Archer, *William* took him out a hunting with him in the *New Foreſt*; and a Prieſt bringing ſix Arrows, he gave two of them to Sir *Walter*, who kept cloſe by the King. For ſome Time, towards Sun-ſet, they were alone, when the King alighted to wait the coming-up of his Courtiers who were diſperſed up and down the Foreſt. In the interim a Stag paſſing by, the King ſhot at him, gave him a ſlight Wound, and quitting his Stand followed the Deer to ſee whether it would drop, holding up his Hand before his

* *Stow* and other Hiſtorians affirm, " That Divine Vengeance purſued the Conqueror for " his cruel and unreaſonable Act, " and puniſhed his Sin in the " Place it was committed. And " if nothing falls out by meer " Chance, but Providence orders " or permits all Things, who " can condemn the Cenſure, " conſidering what afterwards " befel the Conqueror's Family?"

his Eyes to guard them from the Sun, which chanced to ſhine full in his Face, ſo that he was too intent to mind any other Object. Soon after, another Stag paſſing by, Sir *Walter* ſhot at it, and whether the Arrow grazed on its Back, or on a Tree,* is not known; but it ſtruck the King with ſo much Force in the Breaſt, that, without ſpeaking a Word, he dropped down dead. § Upon this *Tyrrel* made off directly, and ſoon got over into *Normandy*; from thence he ſet out for *Jeruſalem*, where he intended to have ſpent the Remainder of his Days, but in his Way thither died.

As to the King's Body, it was found by ſome Country Perſons as they were paſſing through the Foreſt, who made no more to do than to lay it croſs an Horſe, and carried it to *Wincheſter*, where it was buried the next Day in the Cathedral under the Tower, without any great Matter of Ceremony, and, contrary to the Cuſtom in thoſe Days, without the Diſtribution of any Alms, or the tolling of a Bell; in ſhort, few of his Subjects lamented his Death, upon Account of his putting what he called his *Foreſt Laws* into ſuch ſevere Execution; and what was ſtill more ſtrange, ſcarce any of his Courtiers attended his Funeral.

Beſides theſe Princes that I have mentioned to have loſt their Lives in this *New Foreſt*, *Henry*, another of *William the Conqueror*'s near Relations met with the like Fate. As this Prince was ſporting in the

* The Author of the *Travels thro' England* ſays, "That they "ſhew the Tree on which the "Arrow glanced to this Day. "In King *Charles* IId's Time, "it was ordered to be ſurrounded "with a Pale; but great Part of "the Paling is down with Age, "and whether the Tree be "really ſo old, or not, is to me "a great Queſtion, the Action "being above 600 Years ago."

§ *Leland* writes, "That the "Place where *William Rufus* was "killed was called *Thorough-ham*, "and that a Chapel was built "there. In this Foreſt are nine "Walks, and ſo many Keepers. "It has a Lord Warden, two "Rangers, and a Bow-Bearer; "and the Office of Lord Warden antiently belonged to the "Earl of *Arundel* by Inheritance."

the Foreſt, and eagerly purſuing his Game, he was ſtruck by a Bough into his Jaws, and ſo entangled in it that he, like *Abſalom*, was hanged there 'till he died. *Stow* expreſſes the Diſaſter that attended this unhappy Prince thus: "As he rode through the Woods on "Horſeback, he was hanged by the Chaps upon the "Bough of a Tree"

1100. *Henry* I. ſucceeded *William Rufus* on the 2d of *Auguſt*. This Prince was no ſooner placed on the Throne, than he ſhew'd his Intention of acting as arbitrary as his two Predeceſſors; which appear'd by his proſecuting, with the utmoſt Severity, thoſe who dared to hunt in his Foreſts.† However, Death at laſt

†The *New Foreſt* continu'd in the ſame Condition to the End of the laſt Century, without any apparent Sign of making uſe of it for any other Purpoſe, until after the Acceſſion of her late Majeſty Q. *Anne* to the Throne, when a great Number of *Palatines* came over to *England*, who, as it was ſaid, fled their Country upon Account of their Religion, when a Propoſal was made to the late Lord Treaſurer *Godolphin*, and the other Miniſters, to ſettle thoſe unhappy People in the *New Foreſt*.

The Author of the *Travels thro' England* thus relates the Matter: "I cannot omit mentioning here "a Propoſal made ſome Years ago "to the Ld. Treaſurer *Godolphin*, "for re-peopling this Foreſt, "which I can be more particular "in than any other Man, becauſe "I had the Honour to draw up "the Scheme, and argue it be-"fore that noble Lord, and "ſome others, who were prin-"cipally concerned at that Time "in bringing over, or rather "providing for, when they "were come over, the poor In-"habitants of the *Palatinate*; a "Thing in itſelf commendable, "but, as it was managed, made "of no Benefit to *England*, and "miſerable to thoſe poor Peo-"ple.

"Some Perſons being ordered "by the noble Lord above men-"tioned, to conſider of Mea-"ſures how the ſaid poor People "ſhould be provided for with-"out Injury to the Public; the "Anſwer was grounded upon "this Maxim, That the Num-"ber of Inhabitants is the "Wealth aud Strength of a "Kingdom; provided thoſe "Inhabitants were honeſt and "induſtrious, and applied them-"ſelves to live by their Labour, "in whatſoever Trades or Em-"ployments they were bred to. "In the next Place it was en-"quired what they were brought "up to? It was anſwered, there are "Huſbandmen and Artificers of "all

laſt put it out of his Power to do any more Injury to his Subjects. And to this Prince

1035. *Stephen* ſucceeded, after ſome Conteſt, on the 2d of *Dec.* and reigned to the Year 1054. During his Reign, he not only forbore putting his Predeceſſors *Foreſt Laws* into Execution; but, on the contrary, abrogated all the Laws relating to Hunting; and granted his Subjects a very advantageous Charter, whereby he acknowledged, that he poſſeſſed his Crown by

" all Sorts among them; upon " which *New Foreſt* in *Hamp-* " *ſhire* was ſingled out to be the " Place.

" Here it was propoſed to " draw a great Square Line, con- " taining 4000 Acres of Land, " marking out two large High- " ways, or Roads, thro' the " Centre, croſſing both Ways, " ſo that there ſhould be 1000 " Acres in each Diviſion, exclu- " ſive of the Land contained in " the ſaid Croſs-Roads.

" Then it was propoſed to ſin- " gle out Twenty Men and their " Families, who ſhould be re- " commended as honeſt induſ- " trious Men, expert in, or at " leaſt capable of, being in- " ſtructed in Huſbandry, curing " and cultivating of Land, breed- " ing and feeding Cattle, " *&c.* To each of theſe ſhould " be parcelled out, in equal Diſ- " tributions, 200 Acres of this " Land; ſo that the whole 4000 " Acres ſhould be fully diſtribut- " ed to the ſaid 20 Families, for " which they ſhould have no " Rent to pay, and be liable to " no Taxes, but ſuch as provid- " ing for their own Sick and " Poor, repairing their own " Roads, *&c.* This Exemption " from Rent and Taxes to conti- " nue for 20 Years, and then to " pay each 50 *l.* a Year to the " Crown.

" To each of theſe Families, " whom I would now call Far- " mers, it was propoſed to ad- " vance 200 *l.* in ready Money, " as a Stock to ſet them to Work, " to furniſh them with Cattle, " Horſes, Cows, Hogs, *&c.* " and to hire and pay Labourers " to incloſe, clear and cure the " Land; which it was ſuppoſed " the firſt Year could not be ſo " much to their Advantage, as " afterwards; allowing them " Timber out of the Foreſt to " build themſelves Houſes and " Barns, Sheds and Offices, as " they ſhould have Occaſion; alſo " for Carts, Waggons, Ploughs, " Harrows, and the like neceſ- " ſary Things.

" Thus twenty Families would " be immediately ſupply'd and " provided for; for there would " be no Doubt but theſe Fami- " lies, with ſo much Land given " them *gratis*, and ſo much Mo- " ney to work with, would live " very well; and theſe 20 Far- " mers would, by the Conſe-

by no other Tenure than the Election of the People, and of the Clergy; and withal confirmed the Prerogatives of the Church.

1054. *Henry* II. ſucceeded *Stephen* on the Throne, the 25th of *Oct.*; the moſt Part of whoſe Reign was ſpent in foreign War, and a long Controverſy with *Thomas* of *Becket*, Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*; ſo that this Prince had little or no Time to ſpare to look into the Affairs of his Foreſts.

1189.

" quence of their ownSettlements, " provide for and employ ſuch " a Proportion of others of their " own People, that the whole " Number of Palatines would " have been provided for " had there been many more " than there were, and that " without being any Burden " upon, or Injury to, the Peo- " ple of *England*; on the con- " trary, there would have been " an Advantage, and an Addi- " tion of Wealth and Strength to " the Nation, and to the Coun- " ty in Particular, where they " ſhould be thus ſeated.

" This was the Scheme for " ſettling the *Palatines*, by " which Means 20 Families of " Farmers, handſomely ſet up " and ſupported, would lay a " Foundation for 6 or 700 of the " reſt of their People; and as " the Land in *New Foreſt* is un- " doubtedly good, and capable " of Improvement by ſuch Culti- " vation, ſo other Waſtes in " *England* are to be found as " fruitful as that; and twenty " ſuch Villages might have been " erected, the poor Strangers " maintained, and the Nation " evidently be bettered by it. " As to the Money to be ad- " vanced, which in the Caſe of " 20 ſuch Settlements at 4000 *l.* " each, would be 80,000 *l.* two " Things would have been an- " ſwered by the Execution of " this Scheme, viz.

" I. That the annual Rent to " be received for all thoſe Lands, " after 20 Years, would abun- " dantly pay the Public for the " firſt Diſburſes, that Rent being " then to amount to 40,000 *l.* " *per Annum*.

" II. More Money than would " have done this was thrown " away upon them here, to keep " them in Suſpence and after- " wards ſtarve them; ſending " them a Begging all over the " Nation, and ſhipping them off " to periſh in other Countries.

" The Spot where the Deſign " was laid out, was near *Lind-* " *hurſt*, in the Road from *Rum-* " *ſey* to *Lymington*."

From this Account it appears, that it was a great Misfortune to the Nation that the Scheme miſcarried, which, if it had ſucceeded, would in ſome Meaſure have obliterated the Memory of the Conqueror's unjuſt Depredations.

1189. *Richard* I. mounted the Throne *July* the 20th, on the Death of *Henry* II. and reviv'd the Laws * made by the Conqueror, not ſparing even the Nobility and Gentry who hunted in his Foreſts without Licence; and ſome Perſons were puniſhed with the Loſs of their Eyes and Teſticles. The Nobility, and ſome others, had heavy Fines impos'd on them, at the Will of the King; and others were ſo cruelly treated, as to be denied Pardon upon any Terms; in ſhort, no Perſon whatever was exempted from appearing before the Chief Juſtice in Eyre upon the holding every Court, which was a great Oppreſſion to the People, by reaſon of the perſonal Services they were bound to perform at theſe Courts: But in the Midſt of all theſe Proceedings the King himſelf was taken off the Stage of this Life, in the 10th Year of his Reign, by an Arrow ſhot from a Croſs-bow at the Siege of *Chaluz* in *Limouſin*, which he undertook in order to ſeize upon a conſiderable Treaſure which a Gentleman in that Province had found in his Grounds.

* Hear the late ingenious Mr. *Thompſon* concerning the tyrannical Government of *England*, by the *Norman*, and other Princes, and the many Struggles the People made from Time to Time in the glorious Cauſe of Liberty, before they ſucceeded in what they had in View. *Vide* his Poem on *Liberty*.

Compendious War! (on Britain's *Glory bent,*
So Fate ordain'd) in that deciſive Day,
The haughty Norman *ſeiz'd at once an Iſle,*
For which thro' many a Century, in vain,
The Roman, Saxon, Dane, *had toil'd, and bled.*
Of Gothic *Nations this the final Burſt;*
And, mix'd the Genius of theſe People all,
Their Virtues mix'd in one exalted Stream,
Here the rich Tide of Engliſh *Blood grew full.*
Awhile my Spirit *ſlept; the Land awhile*
Affrighted, droop'd beneath deſpotic Rage.
Inſtead of † Edward's *equal gentle Laws,*
The furious Victor's partial Will prevail'd. *All*

† *Edward* the *Confeſſor*, who reduced the *Weſt-Saxon*, *Mercian*, and *Daniſh* Laws into one Body; which from that Time became common to all *England*, under the Name of *the Laws of Edward*.

1199. *John*, on the 6th of *April*, ſucceeded *Richard* I. who purſued the ſame Steps his Predeceſſor had done; which ſevere Proceedings, and other Oppreſſions, ſo exaſperated the Barons, that ſome of them took up Arms againſt the King, and choſe *Robert* Lord *Fitz Walter* their General, and ſtiled him *The Marſhal of the Army of God and of the Church*, who marched from *Northampton*, by the Way of *Bedford*, to *London*. On the Road they wrote Letters to thoſe Earls, Barons, and Knights that adhered to the King, wherein they required them to leave their perjur'd Prince and join with them, otherwiſe they would treat them as Enemies to their Country.

Theſe Letters had the deſir'd Effect; for many of the Barons quitted the King, who, finding himſelf in a helpleſs Condition, ſent *William* Earl of *Pembroke* and other Nobles with a Meſſage to the diſcontented Barons, that he was ready to grant them what they could reaſonably deſire, which produced a Meeting, between *Stains* and *Windſor*, on the 5th of *June* 1215; and

All proſtrate lay; and, in the ſecret Shade,
Deep-ſtung but fearful, Indignation *gnaſh'd*
His Teeth. Of Freedom, Property, *deſpoil'd,*
And of their Bulwark, Arms; *with* Caſtles *cruſh'd,*
With Ruffians *quarter'd o'er the* bridled *Land;*
The ſhivering Wretches at the † Curfew *Sound,*
Dejected ſhrunk into their ſordid Beds,
And, thro' the mournful Gloom of antient Times
Mus'd ſad, or dreamt of better. Even to feed
A Tyrant's *idle Sport the Peaſant ſtarv'd:*
To the wild *Herd, the Paſture of the* Tame,
The chearful Hamlet, ſpiry Town, was given,
And the brown ‡ *Foreſt roughen'd wide around.*
But this ſo dead ſo vile Submiſſion, long,
Endur'd not. Gathering Force, my *gradual Flame*
Shook off the Mountain of tyrannic Sway.
Unus'd to bend, impatient of Controul,

Tyrants

† The *Curfew-Bell* (from the *French Couvrefeu*) which was rung every Night at eight of the Clock, to warn the *Engliſh* to put out their Fires and Candles, under the Penalty of a ſevere Fine.

‡ The *New Foreſt* in *Hampſhire*, made ſo by *William* I.

and there * the King granted the Laws and Liberties which were demanded, and which were drawn up in two Charters, *viz. The Great Charter*, and *The Charter of the Liberty of the Foreſts*.

Thus our Anceſtors obtained a Redreſs of their Grievances, which were become ſo intolerable as ſcarcely to be borne. —— In Fact, theſe two Charters laid the Foundation of the Liberties of this Nation.

This Prince meanly ſubmitted to whatever the Court of *Rome* preſcribed to him, and was even brought to acknowledge, that he held the Crown of the Pope, and that in the Preſence of the Pope's Legate *Pandolphus*, at *Dover*, by pulling the Crown from off his Head and laying it at his Feet, who receiv'd it in the Pope's Name, and deliver'd it back to the King, conditionally, That if he, or any of his Succeſſors, ſhould refuſe to pay Obedience to the *Holy See*, they ſhould loſe all their Right to the Crown.

Still his Head run upon revenging himſelf on his Barons, for raiſing up in Arms againſt him; but in this Attempt he miſcarried, and had like to have loſt his

Tyrants *themſelves the* common Tyrant *check'd.*
The Church, *by* Kings *intractable and fierce,*
Deny'd her Portion of the plunder'd State,
Or tempted, by the Timorous and Weak,
To gain new Ground, firſt taught their Rapine Law.
The Barons *next a nobler League began,*
Both thoſe of Engliſh *and of* Norman *Race.*
In one fraternal Nation blended now,
The Nation of the Free! *Preſs'd by a Band*
Of Patriots, *ardent as the Summer's Noon*
That looks delighted on, the Tyrant *ſee!*
Mark! how with feign'd Alacrity he bears
His ſtrong Reluctance down, his dark Revenge,
And gives the Charter, *by which Life indeed*
Becomes of Price, a Glory to be Man.
Thro' this and thro' ſucceeding Reigns affirm'd
Theſe long-conteſted Rights, the wholeſome Winds

Of

* The Place King *John* met the *Barons* was on *Runny-Mede*, where he ſign'd the *Great Charter of Liberties*, or *Magna Charta*.

his Crown at that Time, which he, however, ſoon after did by Death; for this inglorious Prince, before the Conteſt was fully ended, was poiſoned by a Monk, and buried at *Feverſham*, where we ſhall leave him. To this Prince ſucceeded,

1216. *Henry* III. on the 8th of *Oct.* who, upon *Alan de Neville*'s being put into the Poſt of *Chief Juſticiary* of the Foreſts, cauſed them to be put under ſome new Regulations; to wit, he divided the Kingdom into four Parts, to each he aſſigned four Juſtices, two Clergymen, and two Knights; and appointed likewiſe, in each, two Gentlemen of his Houſhold as Verderors, to take Care of the Vert and Veniſon, and have Authority over all his Foreſters, and thoſe of his Knights and Barons. "Theſe were all ſworn to ob- "ſerve the Aſſizes of the Foreſt now eſtabliſhed; by "which the King cautioned all Perſons from incurring "any

Of Oppoſition † *hence began to blow,*
And often ſince have lent the Country Life.
Before their Breath Corruption's *Inſect-Blights,*
The darkening Clouds of evil Counſel *fly;*
Or ſhould they ſounding ſwell, a putrid Court,
A Peſtilential Miniſtry, they purge,
And ventilated States renew their Bloom.
Tho' with the temper'd Monarchy *here mix'd*
Ariſtocratic Sway, *the* People *ſtill,*
Flatter'd by This *or* That, *as Intereſt lean'd,*
No full Protection knew. For me *reſerv'd,*
And for my Commons, *was that glorious Turn.*
They crown'd my firſt Attempt, in ‡ *Senates roſe,*

The

† The League form'd by the *Barons*, during the Reign of King *John*, in the Year 1213, was the firſt Confederacy made in *England* in Defence of the Nation's Intereſt againſt the King.

‡ The Commons are generally thought to have been firſt repreſented in Parliament towards the end of *Henry* the IIId's Reign. To a Parliament called in the Year 1264, each County was ordered to ſend four Knights, as Repreſentatives of their reſpective Shires: And to a Parliament called the Year following, each County was ordered to ſend, as their Repreſentatives, two Knights, and each City and Borough as many Citizens and Burgeſſes. 'Till then, Hiſtory makes no mention of them; whence a very ſtrong Argument may be drawn, to fix the Original of the Houſe of Commons to that Æra, and the compleating that of our Liberty, by having the Laws then after made by King, Lords, and Commons.

" any Forfeiture on Account of his Veniſon and Fo-
" reſts, in Confidence of that Impunity which they
" had hitherto enjoyed; for tho' he had not yet levied
" any Forfeiture of Chattles, Tranſgreſſors ſhould for
" the future be puniſhed according to the Laws of his
" Grandfather, *Henry*, which ſubjected ſuch Offenders
" to the Loſs of their Eyes and Teſticles. None
" were allowed, without a Warrant, to have any
" Bows, Dogs, or Greyhounds, within the King's
" Foreſts, or to make any Waſte or Deſtruction of
" the Woods that lay within the Precincts thereof.
" The King however allowed his Earls, Barons, and
" Free-Tenants to cut in the Woods what was neceſ-
" ſary for their Uſe, provided it was done without
" Waſte, and by the View of his Foreſters. Theſe
" were ordered alſo to have an Eye on the Foreſters of
" Knights and others, who had Woods within the
" Bounds of his Foreſts, and to ſee that the Woods
" were not deſtroyed; for, if they were, the Forfei-
" ture in that Caſe would be levied on the Owner of
" the Woods, and not on any other Perſon. The
" King's

The Fort of Freedom! *Slow 'till then, alone,*
Had work'd that general Liberty, *that Soul,*
Which generous Nature *breathes, and which, when left*
By me *to Bondage was* corrupted Rome,
I thro' the Northern Nations *wide diffus'd.*

Again, concerning Liberty:

——*But on* BRITANNIA's *Shore*
Now preſent, I to raiſe my *Reign began*
By raiſing the Democracy, *the third*
And broadeſt Bulwark of the guarded State.
Then was the full, the perfect Plan diſclos'd
Of Britain's *matchleſs Conſtitution, mix'd*
Of mutual checking and ſupporting Powers,
KING, LORDS, AND COMMONS; *nor the Name of* Free
Deſerving while the Vaſſal-Many *droop'd:*
For ſince the Moment of the whole They *form,*
So, as depreſs'd or rais'd, the Ballance They
Of Public Welfare and of Glory caſt.
Mark from this Period the continual Proof.

" King's Foreſters were all to ſwear, that they would " obſerve this Aſſize, and not plague any Body for " what the King allowed them out of his Foreſts."

But *Henry* ſoon found, that if he put in Execution the firſt Part of his Law, which he was endeavouring to revive, he would ſoon be involved in very great Troubles. Foreſt Laws were ever deemed, by the Nobility, as an inſupportable Grievance; that they were the Source of an infinite Number of Oppreſſions; that Mitigation thereof was as much contended for as a Relaxation of the Rigour of the Feudal Law; ſo that by *Henry*'s attempting to renew and revive the Conqueror's Foreſt Laws, this Country was made a Scene of Blood for many Years, 'till the Barons took up Arms and inſiſted on having ſecured to the Nation the Charter granted by King *John*, which had the deſired Effect.

For in the 9th Year of this King's Reign he confirmed theſe Charters, called *The Charter of Liberties, and of the* * *Foreſts*, under Seal, and ſent one into each County of *England*. This Charter was witneſſed by thirty-one Biſhops and Abbots, and by thirty-three Lay-barons, and was confirmed in the fourth Parliament held by this King; and withal, Archbiſhop *Bonaface* pronounced a Curſe in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, in the Preſence of a very great Aſſembly, againſt all thoſe who ſhould break this Charter. So that, by obtaining and ſecuring theſe Benefits, the horrid Oppreſſions the Subjects had at Times laboured under were at laſt removed,

* Peers (by *Charta Foreſta, Cap.* xi.) were licenſed, paſſing to Court when ſent for, to hunt in the King's Foreſts. The Words are as follow, ——— *Archbiſhop, Biſhop, Earl, or Baron, coming to us at our Commandment, paſſing by our Foreſt, it ſhall be lawful for them to take and kill one or two of our Deer, by View of our Foreſter, if he be preſent; or elſe he ſhall cauſe one to blow an Horn for him, that he ſeem not to ſteal our Deer: and likewiſe, they ſhall do, returning from us, as it is aforeſaid.* ——— The Statute, as to this Point, was made in ſome Meaſure to remedy the Evil before introduced by the *Norman* Kings, in totally prohibiting the Nobility from hunting in the King's Foreſt without Warrant.

moved, to the great Joy of all true Lovers of old *Engliſh* Liberty.† And upon the Death of this Prince,

1272. *Edward* I. ſucceeded to the Crown the 16th of *November*; and, upon Account of the excellent Law made during his Reign, he was ſtiled the *Engliſh Juſtinian*. In ſhort, he was an excellent King, a good Father, and a formidable Enemy.

This being the happy Condition *England* was then in, Mr. *Pope* proceeds thus to deſcribe it, in his *Windſor Foreſt*, a Poem:

Succeeding Monarchs heard the Subjects Cries,
Nor ſaw diſpleas'd the peaceful Cottage riſe.
Then gath'ring Flocks on unknown Mountains fed,
O'er ſandy Wilds were yellow Harveſts ſpread,

† See *Nelſon's Laws of England concerning the Game*, where all the Acts of Parliament in force relating thereto, are recited.

* Mr. *Somervile* gives us a beautiful Deſcription of a Royal Stag Chace, after Liberty had got firm Footing among us; far different from that in the Times of the *Norman* Princes:

The Morning Sun that gilds with trembling Rays
Windſor's *high Tow'rs, beholds the courtly Train*
Mount for the Chace, nor views in all his Courſe
A Scene ſo gay: Heroic, noble Youths,
In Arts, and Arms renown'd, and lovely Nymphs
The faireſt of this Iſle, where Beauty dwells
Delighted, and deſerts her Paphian *Grove*
For our more favour'd Shades: In proud Parade
Theſe ſhine magnificent, and preſs around
The Royal happy Pair. Great in themſelves,*
They ſmile ſuperior; of external Show
Regardleſs, while their inbred Virtues give
A Luſtre to their Pow'r, and grace their Court
With real Splendors, far above the Pomp
Of eaſtern Kings, in all their Tinſel Pride.
Like Troops of Amazons, *the Female Band*
Prance round their Cars, not in refulgent Arms
As thoſe of old; unſkill'd to wield the Sword,
Or bend the Bow, theſe kill with ſurer Aim.

The

* His moſt ſacred Majeſty the King, and his royal Conſort the late Queen *Caroline*.

The Foreſts wonder'd at the unuſual Grain,
And ſecret Tranſport touch'd the conſcious Swain.
Fair Liberty, Britannia's *Goddeſs, rears*
Her chearful Head and leads the golden Years.
Ye vig'rous Swains! while Youth ferments your Blood,
And purer Spirits ſwell the ſprightly Flood,
Now range the Hills, the thickeſt Woods beſet,
Wind the ſhrill Horn, or ſpread the waving Net.
When milder Autumn Summer's Heat ſucceeds,
And in the new-ſhorn Field the Partridge feeds,
Before his Lord the ready Spaniel bounds,
Panting with Hope he tries the furrow'd Grounds;
But when the tainted Gales the Game betray,
Couch'd cloſe he lies and meditates the Prey:

Secure

The royal Offspring, faireſt of the Fair,
Lead on the ſplendid Train. Anna † *more bright*
Than Summer Suns, or as the Light'ning keen,
With irreſiſtible Effulgence arm'd,
Fires ev'ry Heart. He muſt be more than Man,
Who unconcern'd can bear the piercing Ray.
Amelia, *milder than the bluſhing Dawn,*
With ſweet engaging Air, but equal Pow'r
Inſenſibly ſubdues, and in ſoft Chains
Her willing Captives leads. Illuſtrious Maids
Ever triumphant! whoſe victorious Charms,
Without the needleſs Aid of high Deſcent,
Had aw'd Mankind, and taught the World's great Lords
To bow and ſue for Grace. But who is he
Freſh as a Roſe-bud newly blown, and fair
As op'ning Lillies; on whom ev'ry Eye
With Joy and Admiration dwells? See, ſee,
He reins his docile Barb with manly Grace.
Is it Adonis *for the Chace array'd?*
Or Britain's *ſecond Hope? Hail blooming Youth!*
May all your Virtues with your Years improve,
'Till in conſummate Worth you ſhine the Pride
Of theſe our Days, and to ſucceeding Times
A bright Example. As his Guard of Mutes
On the great Sultan wait, with Eyes dejected
And fix'd on Earth, no Voice, no Sound is heard

Within

† Her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs of Orange.

Secure they truſt th' unfaithful Field, beſet,
'Till hov'ring o'er 'em ſweeps the ſwelling Net.
Thus (if ſmall Things we may with great compare)
When Albion *ſends her eager Sons to War,*
Some thoughtleſs Town, with Eaſe and Plenty bleſt,
Near and more near, the cloſing Lines inveſt;
Sudden they ſeize th' amaz'd, defenceleſs Prize,
And high in Air Britannia's *Standard flies.*
See! from the Brake the whirring Pheaſant ſprings,
And mounts exulting on triumphant Wings:
Short is his Joy; he feels the fiery Wound,
Flutters in Blood and panting beats the Ground.
Ah! what avail his gloſſy, varying Dyes,
His purple Creſt, and Scarlet-circled Eyes,
The vivid Green his ſhining Plumes unfold,
His painted Wings, and Breaſt that flames with Gold?

 Nor

Within the wide Serail, but all is huſh'd,
And awful Silence reigns; thus ſtand the Pack
Mute and unmov'd, and cow'ring low to Earth,
While paſs the glitt'ring Court, and Royal Pair:
So diſciplin'd thoſe Hounds, and ſo reſerv'd,
Whoſe Honour 'tis to glad the Hearts of Kings.
But ſoon the winding Horn, and Huntſman's Voice,
Let looſe the gen'ral Chorus; far around
Joy ſpreads its Wings, and the gay Morning ſmiles.
Unharbour'd now the Royal Stag forſakes
His wonted Lair; he ſhakes his dappled Sides,
And toſſes high his beamy Head, the Copſe
Beneath his Antlers bends. What doubling Shifts
He tries! not more the wily Hare; in theſe
Wou'd ſtill perſiſt, did not the full-mouth'd Pack
With dreadful Conſort thunder in his Rear.
The Woods reply, the Hunter's chearing Shouts
Float thro' the Glades, and the wide Foreſt rings.
How merrily they chant! their Noſtrils deep
Inhale the grateful Steam. Such is the Cry,
And ſuch th' harmonious Din, the Soldier deems
The Battle kindling, and the Stateſman grave
Forgets his weighty Cares; each Age, each Sex
In the wild Tranſport joins; luxuriant Joy,
And Pleaſure in Exceſs, ſparkling exult
On ev'ry Brow, and revel unreſtrain'd.
How happy art thou, Man, when thou'rt no more

Thy

Nor yet, when moiſt Arcturus *clouds the Sky,*
The Woods and Fields their pleaſing Toils deny.
To Plains with well-breath'd Beagles we repair,
And trace the Mazes of the circling Hare:
(Beaſts, urg'd by us, their Fellow-beaſts purſue,
And learn of Man each other to undo.)
With ſlaught'ring Guns th' unweary'd Fowler roves,
When Froſts have whiten'd all the naked Groves;
Where Doves in Flocks the leafleſs Trees o'erſhade,
And lonely Woodcocks haunt the wat'ry Glade.
He lifts the Tube, and levels with his Eye;
Straight a ſhort Thunder breaks the frozen Sky:
Oft', as in airy Rings they ſkim the Heath,
The clam'rous Plovers feel the leaden Death:
Oft' as the mounting Larks their Notes prepare,
They fall, and leave their little Lives in Air.

Sir

Thy ſelf! when all the Pangs that grind thy Soul,
In Rapture and in ſweet Oblivion loſt,
Yield a ſhort Interval, and Eaſe from Pain!
See the ſwift Courſer ſtrains, his ſhining Hoofs
Securely beat the ſolid Ground. Who now
The dang'rous Pitfall fears, with 'tangling Heath
High-overgrown? Or who the quiv'ring Bog
Soft-yielding to the Step? All now is plain,
Plain as the Strand Sea-lav'd, that ſtretches far
Beneath the rocky Shore. Glades croſſing Glades
The Foreſt opens to our wond'ring View:
Such was the King's Command. Let Tyrants fierce
Lay waſte the World; his the moſt glorious Part
To check their Pride; and when the brazen Voice
Of War is huſh'd, (as erſt victorious Rome)
T' employ his ſtation'd Legions in the Works
Of Peace; to ſmooth the rugged Wilderneſs.
To drain the ſtagnate Fen, to raiſe the Slope
Depending Road, and to make gay the Face
Of Nature, with th' Embelliſhments of Art.
How melts my beating Heart! as I behold
Each lovely Nymph, our Iſland's Boaſt and Pride,
Puſh on the gen'rous Steed, that ſtrokes along
O'er rough, o'er ſmooth, nor heeds the ſteepy Hill,
Nor faulters in th' extended Vale below;
Their Garments looſely waving in the Wind,
And all the Fluſh of Beauty in their Cheeks!

While

Sir *John Denham* in his *Coopers Hill*, a Poem, thus elegantly deſcribes the King, attended by his Nobles and Gentry, purſuing the Chace in a Foreſt:

Here have I ſeen the King, when great Affairs
Gave leave to ſlacken, and unbend his Cares. *
Attended to the Chace by all the Flower
Of Youth, whoſe Hopes a nobler Prey devour:
Pleaſure with Praiſe and Danger they would buy,
And wiſh a Foe that would not only fly.
The Stag now conſcious of his fatal Growth,
At once indulgent to his Fear and Sloth,
To ſome dark Covert his Retreat had made,
Where not Man's Eye, nor Heaven's ſhould invade
His ſoft Repoſe; when th' unexpected Sound
Of Dogs, and Men, his wakeful Ear doth wound:
Rouz'd

* Hunting, and all other Sports, relax and unbend the Mind when tir'd with Study, and are a good Refreſhment after the Fatigues of Buſineſs; but were never intended to be made a Buſineſs of.

While at their Sides their penſive Lovers wait,
Direct their dubious Courſe; now chill'd with Fear
Solicitous, and now with Love inflam'd.
O! grant, indulgent Heav'n, no riſing Storm
May darken with black Wings, this glorious Scene!
Shou'd ſome malignant Pow'r thus damp our Joys,
Vain were the gloomy Cave, ſuch as of old
Betray'd to lawleſs Love the Tyrian *Queen.*
For Britain's *virtuous Nymphs are chaſte as fair,*
Spotleſs, unblam'd, with equal Triumph reign
In the Dun Gloom, as in the Blaze of Day.
Now the blown Stag, thro' Woods, Bogs, Roads, and Streams
Has meaſur'd half the Foreſt; but alas!
He flies in vain, he flies not from his Fears.
Tho' far he caſt the ling'ring Pack behind,
His haggard Fancy ſtill with Horrors views
The fell Deſtroyer; ſtill the fatal Cry
Inſults his Ears, and wounds his trembling Heart.
So the poor Fury-haunted Wretch (his Hands
In guiltleſs Blood diſtain'd) ſtill ſeems to hear
The dying Shrieks; and the pale threat'ning Ghoſt
Moves as he moves, and as he flies, purſues.
See here his Slot; up yon green Hill he climbs,
Pants on it's Brow awhile, ſadly looks back

On

Rouz'd with the Noiſe, he ſcarce believes his Ear,
Willing to think the Illuſion of his Fear
Had given this falſe Alarm, but ſtraight his View
Confirms that more than all he fears is true.
Betray'd in all his Strengths, the Wood beſet,
All Inſtruments, all Arts of Ruin met;
He calls to Mind his Strength, and then his Speed,
His winged Heels, and then his armed Head;
With theſe t' avoid, with that his Fate to meet:
But Fear prevails, and bids him truſt his Feet.
So faſt he flies that his reviewing Eye
Has loſt the Chaſers, and his Ear the Cry;
Exulting, 'till he finds their nobler Senſe
Their diſproportion'd Speed does recompenſe.
Then curſes his conſpiring Feet, whoſe Scent
Betrays that Safety which their Swiftneſs lent.

Then

On his Purſuers, cov'ring all the Plain;
But wrung with Anguiſh, bears not long the Sight,
Shoots down the Steep, and ſweats along the Vale:
There mingles with the Herd, where once he reign'd
Proud Monarch of the Groves, whoſe claſhing Beam
His Rivals aw'd, and whoſe exalted Pow'r
Was ſtill rewarded with ſucceſsful Love.
But the baſe Herd, have learn'd the Ways of Men,
Averſe they fly, or with rebellious Aim
Chace him from thence; needleſs their impious Deed,
The Huntſman knows him by a thouſand Marks,
Black, and Imboſt; nor are his Hounds deceiv'd;
Too well diſtinguiſh theſe, and never leave
Their once devoted Foe; familiar grows
His Scent, and ſtrong their Appetite to kill.
Again he flies, and with redoubled Speed
Skims o'er the Lawn; ſtill the tenacious Crew
Hang on the Track, aloud demand their Prey,
And puſh him many a League. If haply then
Too far eſcap'd, and the gay courtly Train
Behind are caſt, the Huntſman's clanging Whip
Stops full their bold Career; paſſive they ſtand,
Unmov'd, an humble, an obſequious Crowd,
As if by ſtern Meduſa *gaz'd to Stones.*
So at their Gen'ral's Voice whole Armies halt
In full Purſuit and check their Thirſt of Blood.
Soon at the King's Command, like haſty Streams

Damm'd

Then tries his Friends among the baſer Herd,
Where he ſo lately was obey'd, and fear'd,
His Safety ſeeks: the Herd, unkindly wiſe,
Or chaſes him from thence, or from him flies.
Like a declining Stateſman, left forlorn
To his Friends Pity, and Purſuers Scorn,
With Shame remembers, while himſelf was one
Of the ſame Herd, himſelf the ſame had done.
Thence to the Coverts, and the conſcious Groves,
The Scenes of his paſt Triumphs, and his Loves;
Sadly ſurveying where he rang'd alone
Prince of the Soil, and all the Herd his own;
And like a bold Knight Errant did proclaim
Combat to all, and bore away the Dame;
And taught the Woods to eccho to the Stream
His dreadful Challenge, and his claſhing Beam.

Yet

Damm'd up a while, they foam, and pour along
With freſh recruited Might. The Stag, who hop'd
His Foes were loſt, now once more hears aſtunn'd
The dreadful Din; he ſhivers ev'ry Limb,
He ſtarts, he bounds; each Buſh preſents a Foe.
Preſs'd by the freſh Relay, no Pauſe allow'd,
Breathleſs, and faint, he faulters in his Pace,
And lifts his weary Limbs with Pain, that ſcarce
Suſtain their Load; he pants, he ſobs appall'd:
Drops down his heavy Head to Earth, beneath
His cumb'rous Beams oppreſs'd. But if perchance
Some prying Eye ſurprize him; ſoon he rears
Erect his tow'ring Front, bounds o'er the Lawn
With ill diſſembled Vigour, to amuſe
The knowing Foreſter; who inly ſmiles
At his weak Shifts, and unavailing Frauds.
So midnight Tapers waſte their laſt Remains,
Shine forth a while, and as they blaze expire.
From Wood to Wood redoubling Thunders roll.
And bellow thro' the Vales; the moving Storm
Thickens amain, and loud triumphant Shouts,
And Horns ſhrill-warbling in each Glade, prelude
To his approaching Fate. And now in view
With hobbling Gate, and high, exerts amaz'd
What Strength is left: To the laſt Dregs of Life
Reduc'd, his Spirits fail, on ev'ry Side
Hemm'd in, beſieg'd; not the leaſt Op'ning left

To

Yet faintly now declines the fatal Strife;
So much his Love was dearer than his Life.
Now every Leaf, and every moving Breath
Preſents a Foe, and every Foe a Death.
Wearied, forſaken, and purſu'd, at laſt
All Safety in deſpair of Safety plac'd,
Courage he thence reſumes, reſolv'd to bear
All their Aſſaults, ſince 'tis in vain to fear.
And now too late he wiſhes for the Fight
That Strength he waſted in ignoble Flight:
But when he ſees the eager Chaſe renew'd,
Himſelf by Dogs, the Dogs by Men purſu'd:
He ſtraight revokes his bold Reſolve, and more
Repents his Courage, than his Fear before;
Finds that uncertain Ways unſafeſt are,
And Doubt a greater Miſchief than Deſpair.

Then

To gleaming Hope, th' Unhappy's laſt Reſerve.
Where ſhall he turn? Or whither fly? Deſpair
Gives Courage to the Weak. Reſolv'd to dye,
He fears no more, but ruſhes on his Foes,
And deals his Deaths around; beneath his Feet
Theſe grovelling lye, thoſe by his Antlers gor'd
Defile th' enſanguin'd Plain. Ah! ſee diſtreſs'd
He ſtands at Bay againſt yon knotty Trunk,
That covers well his Rear, his Front preſents
An Hoſt of Foes. O! ſhun, ye noble Train,
The rude Encounter, and believe your Lives
Your Country's Due alone. As now aloof
They wing around, he finds his Soul uprais'd,
To dare ſome great Exploit; he charges home
Upon the broken Pack, that on each Side
Fly diverſe; then as o'er the Turf he ſtrains,
He vents the cooling Stream, and up the Breeze
Urges his Courſe with eager Violence:
Then takes the Soil, and plunges in the Flood
Precipitant; down the Mid-Stream he wafts
Along, 'till (like a Ship diſtreſs'd, that runs
Into ſome winding Creek) cloſe to the Verge
Of a ſmall Iſland, for his weary Feet
Sure Anchorage he finds, there ſkulks immers'd.
His Noſe alone above the Wave, draws in
The vital Air; all elſe beneath the Flood
Conceal'd, and loſt, deceives each prying Eye

Of

Then to the Stream, when neither Friends, nor Force,
Nor Speed, nor Art avail, he ſhapes his Courſe;
Thinks not their Rage ſo deſperate t' aſſay
An Element more mercileſs than they.
But fearleſs they purſue, nor can the Flood
Quench their dire Thirſt; alas, they thirſt for Blood!
So towards a Ship the oar-fin'd Gallies ply,
Which wanting Sea to ride, or Wind to fly,
Stands but to fall reveng'd on thoſe that dare
Tempt the laſt Fury of extreme Deſpair.
So fares the Stag among the enraged Hounds,
Repels their Force, and Wounds returns for Wounds.
And as a Hero, whom his baſer Foes
In Troops ſurround, now theſe aſſails, now thoſe,
Though prodigal of Life, diſdains to die
By common Hands; but if he can deſcry

Of Man or Brute. In vain the crowding Pack
Draw on the Margin of the Stream, or cut
The liquid Wave with oary Feet, that move
In equal Time. The gliding Waters leave
No Trace behind, and his contracted Pores
But ſparingly perſpire: The Huntſman ſtrains
His lab'ring Lungs, and puffs his Cheeks in vain:
At length a Blood-hound bold, ſtudious to kill,
And exquiſite of Senſe, winds him from far;
Headlong he leaps into the Flood, his Mouth
Loud op'ning ſpends amain, and his wide Throat
Swells ev'ry Note with Joy; then fearleſs dives
Beneath the Wave, hangs on his Haunch, and wounds
Th' unhappy Brute, that flounders in the Stream,
Sorely diſtreſs'd, and ſtruggling ſtrives to mount
The ſteepy Shore. Haply once more eſcap'd;
Again he ſtands at Bay, amid the Groves
Of Willows, bending low their downy Heads.
Outragious Tranſport fires the greedy Pack;
Theſe ſwim the Deep, and thoſe crawl up with Pain
The ſlipp'ry Bank, while others on firm Land
Engage; the Stag repels each bold Aſſault,
Maintains his Poſt, and Wounds for Wounds returns.
As when ſome wily Corſair boards a Ship
Full-freighted, or from Afric's *golden Coaſts,*
Or India's *wealthy Strand, his bloody Crew*

Some nobler Foe approach, to him he calls,
And begs his Fate, and then contented falls.
So when the King a mortal Shaft lets fly
From his unerring Hand, then glad to die,
Proud of the Wound, to it reſigns his Blood,
And ſtains the Cryſtal with a Purple Flood.
This a more innocent, and happy Chace,
Than when of old, but in the ſelf-ſame place, †
Fair Liberty purſu'd, and meant a Prey
To lawleſs Power, here turn'd, and ſtood at bay.
When in that Remedy all Hope was plac't
Which was, or ſhould have been at leaſt, the laſt.

Here

† *Runney Mead,* where that great Charter was firſt ſealed.

Upon her Deck he flings; theſe in the Deep
Drop ſhort, and ſwim to reach her ſteepy Sides,
And clinging climb aloft; while thoſe on Board
Urge on the Work of Fate; the Maſter bold,
Preſs'd to his laſt Retreat, bravely reſolves
To ſink his Wealth beneath the whelming Wave,
His Wealth, his Foes, nor unreveng'd to die.
So fares it with the Stag: So he reſolves
To plunge at once into the Flood below
Himſelf, his Foes in one deep Gulph immers'd.
E'er yet he executes this dire Intent,
In wild Diſorder once more views the Light;
Beneath a Weight of Woe, he groans diſtreſs'd:
The Tears run trickling down his hairy Cheeks;
He weeps, nor weeps in vain. The King beholds *
His wretched Plight, and Tenderneſs innate
Moves his great Soul. Soon at his high Command
Rebuk'd, the diſappointed, hungry Pack
Retire ſubmiſs, and grumbling quit their Prey.
Great Prince! from thee, what may thy Subjects hope;
So kind, and ſo beneficent to Brutes!
O Mercy, heav'nly born! Sweet Attribute!
Thou great, thou beſt Prerogative of Pow'r!
Juſtice may guard the Throne, but join'd with thee,
On Rocks of Adamant it ſtands ſecure,
And braves the Storm beneath; ſoon as thy Smiles
Gild the rough Deep, the foaming Waves ſubſide,
And all the noiſy Tumult ſinks in Peace.

* His Majeſty order'd the Stag's Life to be ſpared, after a moſt noble Chace.

*Here was that * Charter ſeal'd, wherein the Crown*
All Marks of arbitrary Power lays down:
Tyrant and Slave, thoſe Names of Hate and Fear,
The happier Stile of King and Subject bear:
Happy, when both to the ſame Center move,
When Kings give Liberty, and Subjects Love.

To return and further obſerve, that as the Liberties of the Subjects were now ſecured, by obtaining the two Great Charters, and thoſe excellent Laws made in the Reign of *Edward* I. by King, Lords, and Commons, our greateſt Hiſtorians and Poets have, with great Truth and Juſtice, paid grateful Tribute to the Memory of thoſe who procured the former, and paſſed the latter.

The Great Charters were not ſo ſtiled upon the Account of the Largeneſs of the Subject they contained, but, as Lord *Coke* relates of *Magna Charta*, "It "had not its Name from the Greatneſs of it in Quan-"tity, for there were ſeveral voluminous Charters, "longer than this: But it was ſo called in reſpect to "the great Importance and Weightineſs of the Mat-"ter; as *Charta de Foreſta* is called *Magna Charta de* "*Foreſta.*" And both of them are called the *Great Charters of the Liberties of England*, and that with great Reaſon, becauſe they make us FREE.

Edward Coke of the *Middle Temple*, Eſq; publiſhed, in the Year 1680, a Tranſlation of *Magna Charta* from the *Latin*, with ſome Obſervations from the Lord Chief Juſtice *Coke*'s Comments upon it. And in the ſame Year, as the Tranſlation of *Magna Charta* had been well received by the Public, that of the *Great Charter of the Foreſts* was likewiſe publiſhed, with ſome Obſervations of the Lord Chief Juſtice *Coke*'s, taken out of his 4th Inſtitutes of the Courts of the Foreſt.

Theſe Charters, my Lord Chief Juſtice calls Two glorious Lights; and truly ſo, for they were adjudged

* *Magna Charta.*

in Parliament, the 25th of the renowned King *Edward* I. to be taken as the Common Law; and the Law *is the Light and Guide of Judges.*

And ſo highly have Poſterity valued theſe two Charters, that they have been confirmed, eſtabliſhed, and commanded to be put in Execution by no leſs than Thirty-two ſeveral Acts of Parliament.

Hear what the celebrated Mr. *Addiſon* ſays of Liberty, in his Tragedy of *Cato.*

Remember, O my Friends! the Laws, the Rights,
The generous Plan of Power deliver'd down,
From Age to Age, by your renown'd Fore-fathers;
So dearly bought, the Price of ſo much Blood!
O let it never periſh in your Hands!
But piouſly tranſmit it to your Children.
Do thou, great Liberty, inſpire our Souls,
And make our Lives in thy Poſſeſſion happy;
Or our Deaths glorious in thy juſt Defence.

The Author of a Diſſertation upon Parties, in his Dedication to the late Sir *Robert Walpole*, afterwards Earl of *Orford*, thus declares for Liberty:

" Let the illuſtrious and royal Houſe that has been " called to the Government of theſe Kingdoms, go- " vern them 'till Time ſhall be no more. But let the " Spirit, as well as the Letter of the Conſtitution they " are intruſted to preſerve, be, as it ought to be, and " as we promiſe ourſelves it will be, the ſole Rule of " their Government, and the ſole Support of their " Power; and whatever happens in the Courſe of hu- " man Contingencies, whatever be the Fate of parti- " cular Perſons, of Houſes, or Families, let the Li- " berties of *Great Britain* be immortal!

An HISTORICAL ACCOUNT *of making* Richmond *New Park, &c.*

1625. KING *Charles*, upon the Death of his royal Father, acceded to the Throne, who took great Delight in Hunting, and often repaired to *Richmond* (antiently called *Sheene*, 'till King *Henry* VII. gave it that Name) and, obſerving large Tracts of Land lying, ſome of it Waſte, near *Richmond*, came to a Reſolution of making a Park there; and the Reaſon that was afterwards given for it was, becauſe his Majeſty was deſirous to have one near *London*, for his more convenient Hunting: However, it is certain, that this Prince did not follow the Example of *William the Conqueror*; for the King had large Tracts of Land then in Poſſeſſion and Expectancy, and what was not in either of theſe Situations, it is affirmed, he offered to purchaſe. Theſe Lands lay between *Putney*, *Wimbleton*, *Combe*, *Kingſton*, *Ham*, *Peterſham*, *Richmond*, *Mortlake*, *Eaſt Sheene*, *Barnes*, &c.

And it is to be obſerved, that, paſſing over the Ferry at *Putney* from St. *James*'s End of the Town, one of the Roads to *Kingſton* lay thro' the Lands his Majeſty had a mind to make into a Park, as appears in *Speed*'s Map; and likewiſe the Croſs-roads to the different Towns juſt mention'd lay directly over thoſe Lands, and ſo on to either Village or Town croſs the Water over the River *Thames*, or over *Kingſton* Bridge to the *Middleſex* Side, ſuch as *Hampton*, *Twickenham*, *Iſleworth*, *Brentford*, and many other Places, both in the Counties

of

of *Middleſex* and *Surry*. But no ſooner was his Majeſty's Intention of making this Park publickly known, than it was greatly oppoſed, not only by the neighbouring Inhabitants, but alſo by the Citizens of *London*; which Oppoſition aroſe from a Belief, that, ſhould the Park* be made in the Place propoſed, it would be highly prejudicial to the Public: And this cauſed the People loudly

* The making the Park (ſo diſagreeable to the People) took up ſome Time before it was brought to Perfection, and as it was allowed to be an impolitic Step, let us ſee how the other Affairs of the Government was conducted in the mean Time, and, for that End I ſhall take our Accounts of theſe Tranſactions from three very great Authors, Lord *Clarendon*'s Hiſtory of the Grand Rebellion, Vol. 1. in Folio, *Ruſhworth*'s Collections, Vol. 1. in Folio, and *Whitlock*'s Memorials in Folio.

Lord CLARENDON, p. 6.

In the 2d Parliament there was a Motion and Intention of granting five Subſidies, but that Meeting was diſſolved upon very unpopular and unplauſible Reaſons; and thoſe five Subſidies were exacted throughout the whole Kingdom, with the ſame Rigour as if an Act had actually paſſed. Divers Gentlemen of prime Quality, in ſeveral Counties, for refuſing to pay the ſame, were committed to Priſon with great Rigour. And yet all theſe Provocations, and many others of almoſt as large an Extent, produced no other Reſentment in the Third Parliament, than the Petition of Right, (of no Prejudice to the Crown) which was purchaſed at five Subſidies; but in a ſhort Time after granted the Parliament was diſſolved. The Diſſolution of the two firſt Parliaments were imputed to the D. of *Buckingham*, and the Third to *Weſton*, Lord Treaſurer: At the Time of thoſe Diſſolutions, ſome Charges

Mr. RUSHWORTH, p. 418.

King *Charles the Firſt* raiſed Money by way of a general Loan; he that was rated in the laſt Subſidy Book at 100 *l.* in Goods, was to lend 100 Marks; and he that was rated 100 *l.* in Land was to lend 100 *l.* in Money; and ſo proportionable for a greater or leſſer Sum.

Page 422. Several of St. *Clements-Danes*, the *Savoy*, the *Dutchy*, and other Parts within the Liberties of *Weſtminſter*, for refuſing to ſubſcribe the *Loan*, were, by Order of Council, preſſed to ſerve in the Ships, ready to go out in the King's Service, and the Non-Subſcribers of high Rank, in all the Counties, were bound to appear before the Privy Council, who committed divers of them to Priſon, and the common Sort were ſent for Soldiers, Sir *P. Hayman*, for refuſing the Loan, was ſent into the King's Service in the *Palatinate*.

Page 423. Dr. *Manwaring*, in

loudly to complain, when they ſaw Steps were taking to carry the Project into Execution. In ſhort, they levelled moſt of their Reproaches againſt ſome of the principal Miniſters, whom they charged with being the Promoters and Encouragers of this new Undertaking: And ſome proceeded ſo far as to ſay, that there was no leſs a Deſign than to take Men's Eſtates into this

Lord CLARENDON.

Charges and Accuſations were preparing againſt them.

Page 53. Supplemental Acts of State were made to ſupply Defects of Laws, and ſo *Tonnage* and *Poundage*, and other Duties upon Merchandizes, were collected, and new and greater Impoſitions laid upon Trade. The King raiſed a vaſt Sum upon the Law of *Knighthood*; and many unjuſt, grievous, and ridiculous Projects were ſet on foot, and great Fines levied on *Foreſt* Laws. But, for a Supply of all Occaſions, inſtead of a Ship of War, which every County was ordered to provide by ſuch a Day, *&c.* the Sheriff was to raiſe ſo much Money, by which, for ſome Years, came to the King's Coffer 200,000 *l. per Annum*.

For the better Support of theſe extraordinary Ways, and to protect their Agents, the Council-Table and Star-Chamber enlarg'd their Juriſdiction, holding for honourable, that which pleaſed, and for juſt that which profited.

Page 54. There were proclamations, enjoining the People what was not enjoined, and prohibiting that which was not prohibited by Law; the Offenders thereof were impriſoned, and were greatly fined, and thoſe Foundations of Right by which Men valued their Security, to the Appre-

Mr. RUSHWORTH.

in two Sermons before the King and Court at *Whitehall*, delivered for Doctrine, to this Purpoſe, *viz. That the King is not bound to obſerve the Laws of this Realm, concerning the Subjects Rights and Liberties; but that his Royal Will and Command, in impoſing Loans and Taxes without common Conſent in Parliament, doth oblige the Subject's Conſcience, upon Pain of eternal Damnation: That thoſe who refuſed to pay the Loan, offended againſt the ſupreme Authority, and became guilty of Impiety, Diſloyalty, and Rebellion.* And, *That the Authority of Parliament is not neceſſary for the raiſing of Aids and Subſidies:* And, *That the ſlow Proceedings of ſuch great Aſſemblies, were not fitted for the Supply of the States urgent Neceſſities, but would rather produce ſundry Impediments to the juſt Deſign of Princes.*

Page 411. Archbiſhop *Abbot*, refuſing to licenſe Dr. *Sibthorp*'s Sermon (which was much to the ſame Purpoſe as that of Dr. *Manwaring*'s) was ſequeſter'd from his Office.

Page 474. The King gave Direction for a Commiſſion to raiſe Monies by Impoſitions, in Nature of an Exciſe, to be levied throughout the Nation; and ordered the Lord Treaſurer to pay Thirty Thouſand Pounds to

a

this Park without paying for them; and in this Charge even the King's Name was brought in Queſtion. Yet, to ſhew that was not the Deſign, his Majeſty directed his Surveyors to treat with the Owners of ſuch Eſtates as lay within the Bounds where the Park was making, in order to purchaſe them. So that their warm Reſentments ſeem to have carried them to falſe Conjectures.

The

Lord CLARENDON.

prehenſions of wiſe Men, were never more in Danger. But none of the wiſe Men about the King would adviſe him to take one Step towards rectifying ſuch Acts that had been done amiſs, which might have calmed the Minds of the People. Upon this, L. *Clarendon* obſerved, There was no Serenity in the Countenance of any Man who had Age and Experience to conſider Things to come.

Mr. RUSHWORTH.

a *Dutch* Merchant, for raiſing One thouſand Horſe, with Arms both for Horſe and Foot, which ſeemed deſign'd to enforce the Exciſe.

Page 612. Thoſe Horſes were raiſed, and were to come over; but a Parliament being quickly after called, they were countermanded, and afterwards diſpoſed of to the King of *Sweden*, and to the Duke of *Savoy*, p. 637.

Mr. WHITELOCK's Memorials, p. 1.

The *Vantguard*, and ſeven other *Engliſh* Ships, were lent to the King of *France*, and employed againſt *Rochelle*; the Mariners refuſed the Service: *Buckingham* was acquainted with it, but not the Body of the Council. The *Proteſtants* of *France* ſollicited our King againſt it, but he expreſly commanded the Vice-Admiral *Pennington* to do it, and he obeyed.

Page 3. The Commons began to fall upon the Public Grievances: The King ſent a ſmart Letter to the Speaker. To this the Commons returned a general Anſwer, promiſing a Supply; the King ſaid, *I will not allow any of my Servants to be queſtion'd among you, much leſs ſuch as are of eminent Place, and near unto me. I ſee you eſpecially aim at the Duke*, meaning the Duke of *Buckingham*, whom they had charged with many high Crimes and Miſdemeanours.

Page 7. The Privy-Council adviſed the King to take *Tonnage* and *Poundage*. A Commiſſion iſſued to compound with *Recuſants*. The King required a Loan of Money, and ſent to *London*, and the Port-Towns, to furniſh Ships for Guard of the Seas. The Deputy Lieutenants, and Juſtices of *Dorſetſhire*, excuſed themſelves, and ſaid, *The Caſe was without Precedent. London* was rated at twenty Ships, but deſired an Abatement to ten, and two Pinnaces. The Council denied it; and ſaid, *The Precedents in former Times were Obedience, and not Direction.* Commiſſions iſſued out for Muſters, and Power of Martial Law was given.

Page

The Surveyors, purſuant to theſe Directions, had Meetings with the Proprietors: Some very readily conſented to part with their Eſtates (out of perſonal Duty and Reſpect to his Majeſty) upon the Terms propoſed, whilſt ſeveral, on the other Hand, expreſſed their Unwillingneſs to alienate their Properties, for two Reaſons: 1ſt, Not out of any Diſreſpect to the King,

Mr. WHITELOCK's Memorials.

Page 8. To the impoſing of Loans was added the Billeting of Soldiers; Martial Law was executed, and the Soldiers committed great Outrages. Some who refuſed to lend Money to the King, were forced to ſerve in the King's Ships, then ready to Sail; and the Refuſers in the Country, were ſome of them committed, and the meaner Sort preſſed to ſerve as Soldiers. Dr. *Sibthorp* publiſhed a Sermon, preached by him to promote the King's Affairs; wherein he delivered his Opinion, *That the King might make Laws, and do whatſoever pleaſeth him.* Dr. *Manwaring* preached the ſame Divinity, and highly againſt the Power of Parliaments.

Page 9. A Commiſſion of *Exciſe* was granted, and Monies diſburſted for the raiſing of *German* Horſe.

Page 10. The Fleet under the Command of the Earl of *Denbigh*, ſailed to *Rochel*, and finding there ſome *French* Ships, would not aſſault them, though fewer and weaker than themſelves by many Degrees; but after ſhewing themſelves only, they returned and left *Rochel* unrelieved.

Page 11. *Manwaring*'s Books were ſuppreſs'd by Proclamation. Dr. *Manwaring* (tho' diſabled by Sentence) was pardoned, and preferred to a good Living. Some Merchants were committed for not paying *Tonnage* and *Poundage*, according to the King's Declaration. It was reſolved in Council, beforehand, to juſtify theſe Proceedings, when the Parliament ſhould meet; and if the Parliament did not paſs the Bill for *Tonnage* and *Poundage*, then to break it. The Parliament met, (*Jan.* 20. *Car.* 3.) and found the Petition of Right to be printed with ſome Additions; and the Copies without the Additions, were ſuppreſſed by the King's Order.

Page 12. The Order of the Council for levying of *Tonnage* and *Poundage* was read in the Houſe. The Speaker being called upon to put the Queſtion propos'd, ſaid, *He durſt not, for that the King had commanded the contrary.* Warrants of the Council were iſſued for *Hollis*, *Selden*, *Hobert*, *Elliot*, and other Parliament Men, to appear before them; *Hollis*, *Curriton*, *Hobert*, *Elliot*, and *Valentine* appeared, and refuſing to anſwer out of Parliament, for what was ſaid and done in Parliament, they were committed cloſe Priſoners to the Tower, and a Proclamation for apprehending others was publiſhed, and ſome

of

but that they did not care to remove from Places where they had been long ſeated. 2d, Out of Fear, that the Government of the intended new Park might, in future Times, fall into the Poſſeſſion of thoſe who neither regarded the Liberties of their Country, nor that of preſerving to the People the Privileges that was ſaid to be promiſed of a free Paſſage thro' it. An Inſtance of the latter they had experienced in the Park made by the then late King *James* out of *Richmond* Fields, over which, at firſt, were two Foot-paths, the one to *Brentford Ferry*, and the other to the *Mill*, and both barred up, and the People denied to paſs as before. But that Loſs has, in our Time, been abundantly made up by the good Foot and Horſe-way that has been made at the Expence of the Crown, from

Mr. WHITELOCK's Memorials.

of their Studies were ſealed up. Theſe Warrants were dated the 5th of *March*, *Car.* 3. 1628.

Page 37. The Houſe of Commons voted, 1. *That the Charge of Ship Money was againſt the Law, the Subjects Right and Property, and contrary to former Reſolutions in Parliament, and to the Petition of Right.* 2. *That the extra-judicial Opinion of the Judges, was againſt the Law,* &c. ut prius. 3. *That Ship-writs were againſt Law.* 4. *That the Judgment in Mr.* Hampden's *Caſe, about Ship-Money, was againſt Law,* &c. The *Houſe of Lords* paſſed the ſame Votes; and the next Day a Committee was appointed, to draw up a Charge of Treaſon againſt ſuch as had been Abetters therein, the Lord-Keeper *Finch*, and all the reſt of the Judges. But *Finch*, to avoid the Storm that was raiſing againſt him, withdrew himſelf and retired abroad.

Page 50. The King gave a Warrant to repair to the Lodgings, and to ſeal up the Trunks, Studies and Chambers of the Lord *Kimbolton*, Mr. *Pym*, Mr. *Hampden*, Mr. *Hollis*, Sir *Authur Heſſilridge*, and Mr. *Stroud*, Members of Parliament; which was done, but their Perſons were not met with.

Page 51. The five Members received a ſecret Notice of this intended Action, whereby they got out of the Houſe juſt before the King came; otherwiſe, it was believed, that if the King had found them there, and called in his Guards to have ſeized them, the Members of the Houſe would have endeavoured the Defence of them, which might have proved a very unhappy and ſad Buſineſs; and ſo it did, notwithſtanding that was prevented; this ſudden Action being the firſt viſible and apparent Ground of all our following Miſeries.

from *Richmond-Green* to *Brentford Ferry*; and likewiſe the exceeding pleaſant Walk that that has been made leading from *Richmond* to *Kew*, called *Kew Lane*; beſides the Liberty that has been given to the People, at ſeaſonable Times, of walking in his Majeſty's grand Gardens at *Richmond*, Part of which was taken out of the old Park.

My Lord *Cottington* was then Chancellor of the Exchequer, and in great Favour with the King, and often retired to a Seat which lay contiguous to this intended Park, where he took every Opportunity of ſpending his vacant Hours; but now he could find no Reſt, being perpetually followed by the Country People, preſſing him in the ſtrongeſt Terms to perſuade the King againſt making the Park; though Lord *Cottington* took all the Pains he could to excuſe himſelf from interfering, in regard his Majeſty ſeemed bent to have it done, and had given him Directions in relation thereto.

Yet his Lordſhip found, at length, that, if he did not interpoſe in this Affair, he muſt either remove into another Part of the Country, or have no Peace; this cauſed him to examine into the Reaſons offered againſt making the Park, and was, from divers Evidences, made ſenſible, that it would be much better if the Project was laid aſide; which prevailed on him to offer ſeveral Arguments to the King againſt going on with it; for which he received many ſevere Checks: Still that did not at firſt deter him, hoping in the End he ſhould be able to ſucceed in his Sollicitations, and induce his Majeſty to lay his Intention aſide, at leaſt for the preſent.

In this he found himſelf greatly miſtaken, and that the King's Mind was fixed, at all Events, to have the Park completed, which cauſed him to deſiſt, contenting himſelf with having thoroughly convinced the People he was not one of his Majeſty's Adviſers to make the Park; but at the ſame Time his Lordſhip obſerv-

ed, with great Concern, this impolitic Step might one Time or other be very injurious to the royal Intereſt, from the Reflections of the People, not only in thoſe Parts but in *London*.

Archbiſhop *Laud*, another great Miniſter, was often attended, both at his Palace at *Lambeth* and *Croydon*, with Petitions and Repreſentations againſt this Park, inſomuch that he was ſatisfied of the great Inconvenience that would enſue from making it. And he was from thence prevailed on to ſpeak to the King againſt putting the Scheme into further Execution; but he had no better Succeſs than Lord *Cottington*.

Biſhop *Juxton*, the Lord Treaſurer, and ſeveral other Miniſters, likewiſe much importuned his Majeſty to lay aſide the Project; which had no other Effect than to ſhew to the People they were greatly miſtaken when they charged all the great Miniſters of State with being the Authors, Promoters, and Encouragers thereof.

Whilſt thoſe Sollicitations and Remonſtrances were making to the Miniſters againſt the Deſign, the People ſaw the Building of the Wall carrying on very briſkly, (though all the Proprietors who had Farms there, as it was given out, had not conſented to part with their Eſtates) and as they found that what they had offered in Oppoſition thereto had no Effect, they contented themſelves with exclaiming only againſt thoſe actually concerned therein.

My Lord *Clarendon*, who lived at that Time, and wrote afterwards *The Hiſtory of the Grand Rebellion* that immediately enſued, gives us a very circumſtantial Account of that Tranſaction, which is the Reaſon of introducing it here.

" The King, who was exceſſively affected to Hunting and the Sports of the Field, had a great Deſire " to make a great Park, for Red as well as Fallow " Deer, between *Richmond* and *Hampton Court*, where " he had large Waſtes of his own, and great Parcels

of

" of Wood, which made it very fit for the Uſe he " deſigned it to; but as ſome Pariſhes had Commons " in thoſe Waſtes, ſo many Gentlemen and Farmers " had good Houſes and good Farms intermingled " with thoſe Waſtes, of their own Inheritance, or for " their Lives or Years; and without taking them in- " to the Park it would not be of the Largeneſs, or ſo " fit for the Uſe propoſed: His Majeſty therefore de- " ſired to purchaſe thoſe Lands, and was very willing " to buy them upon higher Terms than the People " could ſell them at to any body elſe, if they had Oc- " caſion to part with them, and thought it no unrea- " ſonable Thing upon thoſe Terms to expect this " Conceſſion from his Subjects; and ſo he employed " his own Surveyor, and other of his Officers, to treat " with the Owners, many whereof were his own Te- " nants, whoſe Farms would at laſt expire.

" The major Part of the People were in a ſhort Time " prevailed with,* but many very obſtinately refuſed; " †and a Gentleman, who had the beſt Eſtate, with " a convenient Houſe and Gardens, would by no " means part with it; and the King being as earneſt to " compaſs it, it made a great Noiſe, *as if the King " would take away Men's Eſtates at his own Pleaſure.* " The Biſhop of *London (Juxton)* who was Treaſurer, " and the Lord *Cottington* Chancellor of the *Exchequer*, " were from the firſt entering upon it, very averſe to " the Deſign,‖ not only from the Murmur of the " People, but becauſe the Purchaſe of the Land, and " the making a Brick-Wall about ſo large a Parcel of " Ground (for it is near Ten Miles about) would coſt " a greater Sum of Money than they thought ought to

* A Copy of the Contract that was made for the Sale of thoſe Lands, ſhews they were ſold for 5 *l.* an Acre.

† It has been confidently affirmed, that ſome of thoſe Eſtates were notwithſtanding incloſed in the Park; but whether the Owners were thereby deprived of their Right, or afterwards ſatisfied for them, I cannot take upon me to ſay; nor can a Gentleman who has made a ſtrict Inquiry in relation thereto.

‖ Very faithful Miniſters indeed.

" to be ſacrificed on ſuch an Occaſion; and the Lord
" *Cottington*, who was more ſolicited by the Country-
" People † and heard moſt of their Murmurs,§ took
" the Buſineſs moſt to Heart, and endeavoured, by
" all the Ways he could, and by frequent Importuni-
" ties, to divert his Majeſty from purſuing it, and
" put all Delays he could well do in the Bargains which
" were to be made, 'till the King grew very angry
" with him, and told him, *He was reſolved to go thro'*
" *with it, and had already cauſed Brick to be burned,*
" *and much of the Wall to be built upon his own Land:*
" Upon which *Cottington* thought fit to acquieſce.

" The building the Wall, before People had con-
" ſented to part with their Lands, or their Commonage,
" looked to them as if by Degrees they *ſhould be ſhut*
" *out from both*,* and increaſed the Murmur and Noiſe
" of the People who were not concerned, as well as
" of thoſe who were; and it was too near *London*
" not to be the common Diſcourſe even there. Arch-
" biſhop *Laud* † (who deſired exceedingly that the
" King ſhould be poſſeſſed of as many of the Hearts
" of the People as was poſſible, at leaſt that they
" ſhould have no juſt Cauſe to complain) meeting
" with it, reſolved to ſpeak to the King about it,
" which he did, and received ſuch an Anſwer from
" him, that he thought his Majeſty rather not informed
" enough of the Inconveniences and Miſchiefs of the
" Thing, than poſitively reſolved not to deſiſt from
it.

† This evidences how much the making this Park was oppoſed, which muſt particularly ariſe from the Evil People then feared might one Time or other enſue, and which Poſterity has unfortunately experienced.

§ There were nothing but Murmurs and Complaints, whilſt the Wall was building, from the Inhabitants of the Towns ſurrounding this Spot of Ground.

* Not without Cauſe.

† It is certain Archbiſhop *Laud* greatly oppoſed the making this Park; Why? becauſe the King was likely, by doing it, to loſe the Affection of his Subjects: Which was becoming a faithful Miniſter. Mark what followed after the Park was made; which one would think ſufficient to deter all *Park-Lockers-up* from being guilty of Injuſtice.

" it. Whereupon one Day he took the Lord *Cottington* aſide, (being informed that he *did not diſlike it)* and, according to his natural Cuſtom, ſpake with great Warmth againſt it, and told him, *He ſhould do very well to give the King good Counſel, and to withdraw him from a Reſolution in which his Honour and Juſtice was ſo much called in Queſtion.* *Cottington* anſwered him very gravely, That *the Thing deſigned was very lawful, and he thought the King reſolved very well, ſince the Place lay ſo conveniently for his Winter Exerciſe; and that he ſhould not by it be compelled to make ſo long Journeys as he uſed to do, in that Seaſon of the Year for his Sport; and that nobody ought to diſſuade him from it.*

" The Archbiſhop, inſtead of finding a Concurrence from him as he expected, ſeeing himſelf reproached upon the Matter for his Opinion, grew into much Paſſion, telling him, *Such Men as he would ruin the King and make him loſe the Affection of his Subjects: That for his own Part, as he had begun, ſo he would go on, to diſſuade the King from proceeding in ſo ill a Counſel; and that he hoped it would appear who had been his Counſellor.*

" *Cottington*, glad to ſee him ſo hot, and reſolved to inflame him more, very calmly replied to him, *that he thought a Man could not, with a good Conſcience, hinder the King from purſuing his Reſolution; and that it could not but proceed from Want of Affection to his Perſon, and he was not ſure that it might not be* HIGH TREASON.

" The other, upon the Wildneſs of his Diſcourſe, in great Anger aſked him, *Why? from whence he had received that Doctrine?* He ſaid, with the ſame Temper, *They who did not wiſh the King's Health, could not love him; and they who went about to hinder his taking Recreation, which preſerved his Health, might be thought, for aught he knew, guilty of the higheſt Crimes.* Upon which the Archbiſhop, in great

" great Rage, and with many Reproaches, left him;
" and either preſently, or upon the next Opportunity,
" told the King, *That he now knew who was his great*
" *Counſellor for making his Park, and that he did not*
" *wonder that Men dare not repreſent any Argument to*
" *the contrary, or let his Majeſty know how much he*
" *ſuffered in it, when ſuch Principles in Divinity and Law*
" *were laid down to terrify them.* And ſo recounted to
" him the Conference he had had with the Lord *Cot-*
" *tington*, bitterly invieghing againſt him and his
" Doctrine, mentioning him with all the ſharp Re-
" proaches imaginable, and beſeeching his Majeſty,
" *That his Counſel might not prevail with him*; taking
" ſome Pains to make his Concluſions appear very
" falſe and ridiculous.

" The King ſaid no more, but, *My Lord, you are*
" *deceived*, Cottington *is too hard for you, upon my*
" *Word*; *he hath not only diſſuaded me more, and given*
" *me more Reaſons againſt this Buſineſs, than all the*
" *Men in* England *have done, but hath really obſtructed*
" *the Work, by his not doing his Duty as I commanded*
" *him*; *for which I have been very much diſpleaſed with*
" *him. You ſee how unjuſtly your Paſſion hath tranſport-*
" *ed you.* By which Reprehenſion he found how
" much he had been abuſed, and reſented it accord-
" ingly."

But notwithſtanding the Project for making the Park was carried into Execution, Care was taken in the firſt Inſtance fully to ſhew that there was no Deſign of hindering or preventing the Communication between the neighbouring Towns, by properly placing Gates, as follows:

For thoſe who came from *Putney*, either over *Barnes Common*, or the Places adjacent thro' *Roehampton*, one was placed there called *Roehampton-Gate*; and a Road was made directly croſs the Park to a Gate called *Ham-Common-Gate*; and from thence fell into the Road to *Ham* and *Kingſton*. From that Road that paſſed thro'

the

the Park to *Ham-Common*, another branched out on the Right-Hand to a Road that leads to a Gate upon *Richmond-Hill*; paſſing thro' which, the Way on the Left-Hand under the Wall goes to *Peterſham*; and that, in a ſtrait Line down the *Hill*, brings you to the Town. Another Gate was placed croſs the Park on the Side of *Wimbleton*; another Gate on the Side of *Coombe*, which leads to the Manor of *Coombe-Nevill*; another Gate for Perſons that come from *Eaſt Sheene*, *Mortlake*, and *Barnes*.

Theſe Roads were open and free for all Perſons and Carriages at convenient Times; and for their greater Eaſe, eſpecially the neighbouring Inhabitants to the Park, Keys were diſtributed to ſuch Perſons of Credit as applied for them, which were made uſe of as readily as the Keys of their Gardens. At the ſame Time Step-Ladders were fixed againſt the Wall of the Park in divers Parts, for the more convenient paſſing and repaſſing of Perſons of all Degrees on Foot, and the Poor in the neighbouring Pariſhes were permitted, as before, to take and carry away the Underwood, *&c.* for Firing, in the different Parts that were ſo incloſed in the Park; ſo that the Communication between the neighbouring Towns and Villages were kept open, and thereby greatly prevented the Grievances that were feared would enſue from this Incloſure.*

* No doubt all this was done in regard, particularly that the Intereſts of private Perſons were only purchaſed, and not that of the Right or Privilege that the Inhabitants thereabouts, or any other of the King's Subjects had before, to go thro' any of the High Roads or Ways that lead thro' the Lands that his Majeſty had ſo taken into his New Park: For Inſtance,

It appears from the *Homage Book*, kept by the Copyholders of the Royal Manor of *Richmond*, otherwiſe call'd *Weſt Sheene*, whereof the King was Lord of the Manor, they did conſent to part with their Right to the Herbage of ſo much of the Waſte as was taken into the Park; and that thoſe Copyholders were paid a Conſideration for the ſame: But they did

The King, after he had proceeded in this Project of incloſing and making the Park, did ſoon after his Intermarriage with the Princeſs *Mary* of *France*, ſettle his Royal Palace at *Richmond*, with the Manor of *Weſt Sheene*, otherwiſe called *Richmond*, on his Queen; and the Courts that were held for the Manor, were held in her Majeſty's Name. As

did not diſpoſe of the Rights of the Pariſhioners; which they in ſome ſort aſſert at this Time, by going into the Park and marking the Boundaries of their Pariſh.

It likewiſe appears, from a Deed made the 20th Day of *December*, in the 11th Year of the Reign of King *Charles* I. between his ſaid Majeſty, of the one Part; and *William Murray*, Eſq; one of the Grooms of the King's Bed-Chamber, and others, Freeholders and Copyholders of Inheritance for Lives or Years reſpectively, of, in, or belonging to the ſeveral Manors of *Ham* and *Peterſham* in the County of *Surry*, of the other Part; reciting, That whereas our ſaid Sovereign Lord the King was ſeized in his Demeſne as of his Fee in Right of his Crown of *England*, of and in the ſeveral and reſpective Waſtes and Commons thereunto belonging; and further reciting, That his Majeſty was determined then ſhortly to encloſe and take in within his intended New Park, near *Richmond* in the County of *Surry*, 265 Acres, or thereabouts, belonging to the Manor of *Peterſham*, and alſo 483 Acres, or thereabouts, Parcel of the Common or Waſte Ground of or belonging to the Manor of *Ham*. To which intended New Park the Deed further ſets forth, That the ſaid Parties before named had willingly conſented and agreed thereto. — The Indenture therefore witneſſed, that the ſaid Parties did for themſelves and their Heirs (in Conſideration of 4000 *l.* paid to them before the enſealing the ſaid Deed by his Majeſty, that is to ſay, a proportionable Part to each Perſon, according to their ſeveral Intereſts, *&c.*) remiſe, releaſe, and quit Claim to his Majeſty, his Heirs and Succeſſors, all their Right and Title in and to the ſaid Premiſſes; *but ſaving and reſerving always to the ſaid ſeveral Perſons, their Heirs and Aſſigns, all their Right and Intereſt of Common in all and every other the Waſte Ground of or belonging to the ſeveral Manors of* Ham *and* Peterſham, *that are not to be encloſed in his Majeſty's New Park, his Majeſty being well pleaſed that neither his Majeſty, his Heirs or Succeſſors, nor any of his or their Farmer or Farmers of the ſaid Manors, or either of them, ſhall from henceforth have, make, or take any Benefit or Profit in or out of the Reſidue of the ſaid Waſte Ground of the ſaid Manors, or either of them ſo left out of the ſaid intended New Park; but that the ſaid Perſons ſhall have the ſole Right, Benefit, and Profit of the ſame.* — Next follows a Covenant from the Parties to his Majeſty, that they have done no Act to incumber the Eſtates ſo ſold by them;

As to the King he was as unfortunate as his Predeceſſor *William the Norman*, called the *Conqueror*, who found little or no Pleaſure in his *New Foreſt*, neither did this King in his New Park. For Lord *Clarendon*, after he has given us his Account relating to the making the Park, ſo diſpleaſing to the People, has further

 ſhewn

them; and that they and their Heirs ſhall and will execute ſuch Deed, for further Aſſurance to his Majeſty, *&c.*

Notwithſtanding this Sale—— Certainly, they could not diſpoſe of the Highways and Foot-paths that lay over it! for that Right and Liberty ſeems ſtill to ſubſiſt, tho' the Eſtates were ſold, as in this Caſe, to a crown'd Head, unleſs an Act of Parliament had been obtained for that Purpoſe, which it is preſumed no one will pretend to ſay has been done.

The Deed appears to be a common Deed of Sale, with only this Difference, that as the Tenants had conveyed all their Right to the Herbage of and in the Lands taken into the Park, Care was taken to ſecure to them and their Heirs all the Right of Commonage to the Waſte Ground out of it (not ſo much as allowing one Foot of Land from the Park Wall, nor did the King deſire it, as appears from the Deed) of and in the ſaid Manors. And it is to be obſerved, that the Freeholders and Copyholders of the ſaid two Manors diſpoſed of their private Rights: So that the Pariſhioners of thoſe Places, and the Poor thereof, I mean the Pariſh Poor, if they had a Right before to take the Underwood in the Waſtes, and the Lands paid all Taxes, the Sale, one would think, did not deſtroy it: And it is believed, that no one, who knows any thing of this Park, will deny, but that the neighbouring Poor have been permitted from Time to Time ('till that of the new Regulations) to enter the Park, and pick up and carry away the Wood, *&c.* for Firing. If that is admitted, Does it not ſhew ſome Right? and draws this Obſervation, That Perſons ſhould be cautious how they cauſe the Poor in the Neighbourhood to be publickly whipt for doing what has been practiſed and allowed for ſo many Years.

It is likewiſe to be obſerved, that there is not one Word mentioned in this Deed of the common Highway, or the Paths and Paſſages leading thro' the Lands theſe Gentlemen ſo ſold to the King, and for a good Reaſon, becauſe they had no Right to diſpoſe of either one or the other; it being affirmed as Law, the King cannot ſtop the Navigation of the River *Thames*, nor make a Bridge croſs it, without an Act of Parliament; nor erect a Gate ſo as to ſhut up or obſtruct a Road that is known and allowed to be the common Highway, tho' called the King's Highway. —— Surely then this Purchaſe can by no means juſtify the ſhutting up the public Roads, if there were any ſuch before, over the Lands incloſed in the Park.

ſhewn how much they were diſſatisfied in other Reſpects, which was not enough (ſays his Lordſhip) conſidered by thoſe in Power; but then he intimates, that thoſe who had the principal Care and Management of the *Government*, believed it ſo ſettled, that it could not be ſhaken from within or without, and that leſs than a general Confuſion of Law and Goſpel could not hurt it, which was true too: And it is probable, that, that being the general Opinion of thoſe in Power, made ſome of them little regard the Murmurs of the People, and in particular, to look upon thoſe who oppoſed the Park as Perſons very inconſiderable; ſo that, upon theſe Conceits of their own, they became more and more remiſs in redreſſing Grievances: Yet they could not but have obſerved, that there have been ſeveral Inſtances of great Confuſion and Diſtraction, that have ariſen from even leſs Occaſions; which, if it had been at firſt rightly attended to, might have been prevented or ſoon ſuppreſſed: Upon the Whole, his Lordſhip made ſome general Obſervations touching the ſeeming viſible Proſperity of the Government, and the inward reſerved Diſpoſition of the People to Murmuring and Diſquietude, and then concludes his firſt Book.

The Earl opened his ſecond Book with Quotations from the *Pſalms*, and then proceeded to lay before his Readers the further Cauſes that gave Riſe to the bloody War* that enſued between the King and Parliament, by which

* The Author of the *Diſſertation upon Parties* ſpeaks thus: *The Spirit of the Father's Reign was maintained in that of his Son, and the Events of both produced the Civil War. The Civil War ended in the Death of the King, and the Exile of his Family. The Exile of theſe Princes reconciled them to the Religion of* Rome, *and to the Politics of Foreign Nations, in ſuch Degrees as their different Characters admitted:* Charles *ſipped a little of the poiſonous Draught, but enough however to affect his whole Conduct. As for* James II.

——— Ille impiger hauſit
Spumantem pateram.

He drank the Chalice off to the loweſt and fouleſt Dregs. ——Which ended in the *Revolution*, and that of the unhappy King's loſing his Crown, and dying at laſt in a foreign Country.

which it ſoon appeared that Men were greatly miſtaken, when they thought the Government was ſo firmly ſettled as not to be diſturbed or hurt; for the Concluſion proved fatal to the King, whoſe Life was barbarouſly taken away by the Hands of the common Executioner, upon a Scaffold before his own Palace at *Whitehall*, *Jan.* 30th 1648, and the Remainder of the Royal Family were drove for a Time to ſeek Shelter and Protection in foreign Parts. In ſhort, the Whole of thoſe Proceedings were ſo ſhocking and moving, that I forbear to enter into a further Detail thereof; and therefore refer the Reader to Lord *Clarendon*, and other Hiſtorians that have fully related the Tranſactions of thoſe unhappy Times.

1649. In the mean Time, that is immediately after the Death of the King, the Parliament, as it was then called, who had the governing Power of the Kingdom, as Mr. *Whitelock*, in his *Memorials*, affirms, made a Preſent of the Park to the City of *London*,* who took it into their Hands, and appointed proper Perſons to take

* It is more than probable, that if the Citizens had not had the Park committed to their Care, it would have been in the Condition above obſerved; and more eſpecially if it had fell into the Hands of one *of the Park-Lockers-up*. Now to ſhew an Inſtance of the Zeal of the Citizens of *London*, to recover back an antient Priviledge which had been arbitrarily taken from them, in reſpect to the Freedom they had enjoyed for Time immemorial, of walking and taking their Diverſions in the Fields round *London*, take the following Extract of the Accounts given thereof by *Holling ſhead* and *Grafton*, two antient Hiſtorians.

In the Year 1513, the Inhabitants of *Iſlington*, *Hoxton*, *Shoreditch* and other Places, had taken it into their Heads to encloſe the common Fields with Hedges and Ditches, and to deny the young Men of the City of *London* Permiſſion to go into the Fields with their Bows and Arrows as formerly; and likewiſe to interrupt the antient Perſons from walking for their Pleaſure through ſuch Places as they had heretofore done; for now, if the young Men paſſed out with their Bows and Arrows into the Fields, they were taken from them and broken, and the honeſt antient and ſubſtantial Perſons that walked out as before to amuſe themſelves there, were either arreſted

take care of it, by which Means the Park was preſerved; or otherwiſe, in all Probability, there had not been one Brick of the Park-wall left upon another; but, during the Time the Citizens of *London* had the Government of the Park, it was open for all Perſons to paſs and repaſs, and the Poor in the Neighbouring Pariſhes were permitted to take the Underwood for Firing, in the ſame Manner as they enjoyed it, when the Park was firſt made; and the People in general were permitted to recreate themſelves therein, in ſuch ſort as was moſt agreeable to them, and thus the Park continued open and free, until the Time of the *Reſtoration* of the Royal Family.

1660. King *Charles* II. was no ſooner returned to his Kingdoms, than the Citizens of *London* delivered up the Park to his Majeſty, and withal aſſured their Sove-

arreſted or indicted by the Owners of the Fields, who proceeded ſo far as to declare, that no Wanderer ſhould go out as they were wont to do, for ſo they called the *Londoners*. This Treatment cauſed great Murmuring and Complaints among the Citizens, inſomuch, that a great Number of them aſſembled together in the City, to conſider what was proper to be done: Soon after this meeting, a Turner in a Fool's Coat, with a Shovel and Spade on his Back, ran through the City, crying out, Shovels and Spades, and there inſtantly followed him an infinite Number of Perſons properly provided; to work they went, and in a ſhort Time all the Hedges about Town were cut down, the Ditches filled up, and the whole Fields laid open; when that was done, every Man returned to his Reſt. The Lords of the Council, hearing of this Uproar, repaired to the *Grey Fryars* in the City, to enquire into the Cauſe, where ſending for the Lord Mayor and other Magiſtrates, they were immediately attended by them, and the whole Matter related; their Lordſhips, upon hearing what had been tranſacted, and the Reaſons offered for ſo doing, and that all was quiet, took no further Notice thereof, ſave that of adviſing the Lord Mayor to take Care to ſecure the Peace of the City.

It was remarked, that for many Years after this Exploit, there was not a Hedge to be ſeen, and even at this Day are ſo planted, as not to annoy the Foot Paſſengers. This is an Inſtance how neceſſary it is for the People to ſtand up for their antient Priviledges, which if they had been then ſhamefully neglected, might have been loſt for ever.

Long Forbearance increaſes Injuries,—Swift Reſentment cuts off Dallying.—

Sovereign, *That they had kept it only as his Majeſty's Stewards*, which was looked upon as extremely polite in the Citizens, and was very graciouſly received by the King with Thanks.

The King, having thus received the Park into his Royal Hands, appointed a Ranger or Governor thereof; but there was not the leaſt Attempt to deprive the People, or the Inhabitants of the neighbouring Towns and Villages, of any Privileges they had enjoyed from the firſt forming it.*

And the Pariſhioners of the different Towns ſurrounding it were permitted *without Interruption* to enter the Park, and mark out ſo much as was in their reſpective Pariſhes, particularly *Richmond*, at a Door adjoining to the Lane going up to *Eaſt Sheene* Common. This mild Proceeding, which continued during all the Reign of King *Charles* II. very much contributed to allay the Diſcontent which the firſt Incloſure had ſtill left in the Minds of the People.

1685. Upon the Acceſſion of King *James* II. to the Throne, though he took much Delight in *Richmond*, no Alterations were made in the Government of the Park, and all Privileges were enjoyed as in the preceding Reign.†

1688.

* There was expended in this Reign a conſiderable Sum of Money in laying out delightful Walks and new planting ſeveral Parts of St. *James's Park*, after which, the King was pleaſed to grant his Subjects the free Liberty to walk and recreate themſelves therein, and likewiſe to paſs and repaſs through it at ſeaſonable Times. —— This Privilege they enjoy to this Day, and is of very great Service, in particular to the Inhabitants of *London* and *Weſtminſter*.

† It is ſaid, *Hyde Park*, in King *James* II. Time, became veſted in the Crown, and was ſhut up. (This Park takes in a great Compaſs of Ground, extending by *Knightſbridge*, *Kenſington Gardens*, round by the Road to *Oxford*, down by what is now called *Groſvenor Square*, to a Place called *Hyde Park Corner*.) The Inconvenience, that attended the Subjects from ſhutting up the Park, was, I have been informed, greatly complained of during this King's ſhort Reign; but it does not appear that

1688. In the Beginning of King *William* and Queen *Mary*'s Reign, there was not the leaſt Attempt made to deprive the Subjects, and particularly the Inhabitants of the neighbouring Towns, of any of their Rights and Privileges; but in the latter Part thereof, an Attempt was made to proſecute ſome Perſons for Treſpaſſes, that, as it was alledged, had been committed in the Park, and for that End, Bills of Indictment were, as I have been informed, preferred againſt them to the Grand Jury at the Aſſizes held at *Kingſton upon Thames*, in and for the County of *Surry*. Among others of that Jury were *Nicholas Carew*, Eſq; Uncle to the late Sir *Nicholas Carew*; who, with many other Gentlemen of very conſiderable Eſtates in the County, upon Debate of the Matter, returned thoſe Bills *Ignoramus*.

Upon this, thoſe Feuds that had been raiſed by ſome of the *Petty Tyrants* in Power ſubſided, and the Subjects, the Remainder of their Majeſty's Reign, enjoyed the Privileges and Advantages they had from the Beginning.

1702. Queen *Anne* ſucceeded King *William* and Queen *Mary*, and in her Reign the Earl of *Rocheſter* was Ranger, who had a noble Houſe adjoining to the Park; * but that Lord was far from attempting to deprive the Subjects from any of their antient Privileges (for now it was more ſtrictly ſo called) that he even continued moſt willingly to grant all the creditable

that any Application was made to the Crown for a free Paſſage through it, until after the Acceſſion of King *William* and Queen *Mary* to the Throne, when humble Application was made to their Majeſties, which had ſo good an Effect, that the King and Queen were pleaſed to give Directions for opening the Park, and to permit their Subjects free Paſſage thro' it; which Privilege ſtill continues; and to make it the more compleat, our preſent *moſt gracious Sovereign*, conſiſtent with his repeated Goodneſs, has permitted a new Gate to be opened near *Groſvenor-Square*.

* This was afterwards burnt down, but has been ſince rebuilt in a grand Taſte by the preſent Owner, his Excellency *William* Earl of *Harrington*, late Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*.

ble Neighbours Keys, that requeſted them, for their more convenient going into the Park, without any Reſpect to Perſons. This Freedom and the mild Behaviour of the Governors were of exceeding Service to the County in general, and to *Kingſton* and *Richmond* in particular, as well as the neighbouring Towns and Villages; ſo that, upon the Death of her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, the Neighbourhood was in a flouriſhing Condition.

1714. King *George* Iſt ſucceeded the Queen, and *Richmond* was, ſome few Years after, honoured with the Reſidence of a Branch of the Royal Family; and the People thought themſelves extremely happy with having added to their antient Privileges ſuch princely Neighbours: * Yet before the Cloſe of that Reign it was to be perceived, that there was a Deſign on foot to deprive the Subjects of a free Paſſage thro' the Park, which gave great Uneaſineſs to many of the Inhabitants that lived near it; but, to do Juſtice to the Memory of the late Earl of *Rocheſter*, it does not appear that he gave the leaſt Diſquietude to any one Paſſenger during the Time he had the Government of the Park.

1727. King *George* II. our preſent moſt gracious Sovereign, ſucceeded to the Throne upon the Death of his

* I am informed that, in this Reign, ſome Attempts were made to ſhut up, or at leaſt debar the Subjects the Privilege of paſſing and recreating themſelves, as uſual, in two famous Parks, which however proved abortive.

1ſt, *Greenwich* Park; but this was no ſooner propoſed than rejected with Contempt.

2d, A Park near a Royal Palace, not above 20 Miles from *London*; and the Way there taken was, not to let Perſons thro' without making an Acknowledgment; which, being much complained of, a Gentleman of the firſt Quality undertook the Defence of the Subjects, and being brought to Tryal, at the Aſſizes, was determined in their Favour, to the great Joy of all honeſt Men. In Return, the Freeholders elected that Gentleman one of the Knights of the Shire to repreſent them in Parliament, without putting him to the Trouble and Expence of ſolliciting for it, which we wiſh were done in every Place.

Royal Father; and after the Earl of *Rocheſter*, another great Miniſter, who had for ſome Time Lodgings upon *Richmond Hill*, became poſſeſſed of the *New Park*, either in his own Right, or that of ſome of his Friends, who received it from the Hands of the laſt Poſſeſſor in the manner before related; therefore it will not be amiſs to obſerve, that as there were no Lodges at the Gates, new ones were built, and Perſons, ſtiled *Park-Keepers*, were placed to open them, under Pretence of making it more convenient for thoſe who paſſed thro' it. Afterwards grand Apartments were added to the old Buildings in what was called the *Lodge*, in the Park, and made ſo commodious as to be fit to receive Perſons of the greateſt Quality, in which was placed a Perſon, by ſome called the *Deputy*, by others the *Captain* of the Park.

Soon after the placing ſo many Park or Gate-keepers, Complaints were made of many and frequent Injuries committed in the Park, and that was alledged muſt be done in the Night; and as there were *Lodges* and *Perſons* placed at every Gate to open them when demanded, the Ladders were then ſaid to be uſeleſs. This was made uſe of as the chief Pretence for taking them away. But, to prevent the *general Clamour* of the People, not to ſay worſe, Perſons were at firſt permitted to paſs thro' the Gates without Interruption; and as that, by degrees, was denied to ſome who offered to go that Way, it appeared that that very Act of *removing the Ladders*, and at Times *denying* to ſeveral a free Paſſage thro' the Park, that the Commerce and Correſpondence between the neighbouring Towns and Villages were very greatly interrupted, and conſequently highly injurious to the Public.

But this is to be obſerved, that ſoon after it appeared the Park was ſo well ſtocked with all Sorts of Game, as not to be excelled by any in the Kingdom, inſomuch that the King and Queen, with others of the Royal

and riding in the Park, ſoon quitted their ſeveral Abodes; and conſequently Lodgings were unlet, Houſes empty, and Rents badly paid. Nor was this all, Meſſengers, tho' diſpatched on the moſt urgent Occaſions, ſuch as Death, Sickneſs, or Child-Birth, were obliged to go ſome Miles about, by which either Aſſiſtance came too late, or the Perſons concerned, at beſt, ſubject to an extraordinary Charge, which might have been avoided.

Add to this, that, in the Winter, the Indigent are deprived of the Benefit of the waſte Wood for Firing, which, however little it affects the *Governors* of the Park, are very ſenſibly felt by the Poor of *Kingſton* and *Richmond*, as well as the other adjacent Towns. —And it is affirmed that, during the Time the Park was open and free, there reſided at *Kingſton*, in particular, a great Number of opulent Perſons who kept their Coaches or Chariots; —— but no ſooner did the *new Regulations* take Place, than it was obſerved that many removed from time to time to other Towns, ſo that now there are not half the Number of Coaches and Chariots kept there as formerly.

Beſides, it is allowed by all who know the Country, that, ever ſince the *new Scheme* has been put in Execution, the neighbouring Places have ſeverely ſuffered thro' their being deprived of their antient Privileges; and even at this Day ſome Gentlemen have declared, who have Houſes near the Park, that, if they are debarred the Liberty of going into it as formerly, they will quit their Habitations. Theſe Inconveniences have been ſo fully ſeen and felt for ſome Time, not only in other Pariſhes but particularly at *Richmond*, that the following Extract of a Letter, from a Gentleman at *Richmond* to his Friend at the *Bath*, was publiſhed, dated *October* the 1ſt, 1748.

" I am extremely glad to hear of your agreeable " Settlement at *Bath*, and of the Account you give " me of the flouriſhing State of that Place, owing to " the

" the Reſort of the Nobility and Gentry from all Parts
" of the Kingdom; who, while they try the Effect
" of the Waters, are accommodated in ſuch a Manner
" as greatly pleaſes themſelves, and at the ſame Time
" enriches the Inhabitants. Thus the Diverſions are
" free, as well as ſprightly; and the Seaſon enlivened
" with all the variety of Pleaſure which Wealth can
" command.

" I muſt own, with Concern, that the Place I now
" write to you from, preſents a very different Pro-
" ſpect. *Richmond*, once the Seat of the Graces, and
" the delightful Abode of our antient Kings, is at
" preſent very much changed. The Abſence of the
" Royal Family this Year, and the almoſt total Prohi-
" bition of entering the *New Park*, have driven away
" many worthy Citizens and others, who uſed to re-
" ſort here for the Benefit of the Air; and, as I hear,
" there is a Deſign on foot for turning the Great Road *
" another way. I apprehend we ſhall ſoon become
" a deſerted Village, and ſhare the ſame Fate with the
" poor old Palace here, which ſtands a melancholy
" Monument of the Uncertainty of all human Gran-
" deur.

" There is ſomething ſo unnatural in the ſhutting
" up our Park, that it is as hard to aſſign a Reaſon for
" it, as it would be to ſhew by what Authority it is
" done: The Thing however is Matter of Fact; and
" merits both Enquiry and Redreſs. It is heartily to
" be wiſhed ſome generous Hand would interpoſe in
" our Favour, and ſave us from the viſible Decay
" which threatens us.

" *Elſe deſolate theſe pleaſing Scenes I ſee,*
" *And ſuch as* Nonſuch † *is—will* Richmond *be!*

" I

* That Point has been tried, and a Verdict given for the Inhabitants.

† *Nonſuch* lies about five Miles from *Kingſton upon Thames*, and was formerly called *Cuddington*, 'till

" I know you will ſympathize with me in the Al-
" teration which threatens a Spot, where we have ſpent
" ſo many agreeable Hours, and with which you al-
" ways appeared ſo much delighted."

This had no Effect with thoſe whoſe extraordinary Proceedings gave Riſe to the Complaints of the neighbouring Inhabitants as well as the Citizens of *London*,

K who

'till *Henry* VIII. built himſelf a Palace there for his Pleaſure and Diverſion, it being ſituated in a very wholeſome Air. It was ſo magnificent and beautiful in that Prince's Time, that it is ſaid to have eclipſed all the neighbouring Buildings, and arrived at the higheſt Pitch of Grandeur and Magnificence. One of our Writers ſays, " That one would " think the whole Art of Archi- " tecture was crouded into this " ſingle Edifice, ſo many Images " to the Life were upon all Sides " of it, ſo many Wonders of " Workmanſhip, that it might " vie with the moſt curious Re- " mains of *Roman* Antiquity, " which was the Reaſon it had " the Name given it of *Nulla* " *ejuſmodi*, or *Nonſuch*, which " *Loland* has thus prettily ex- " preſſed in two *Latin* Verſes:

" *Hanc quia non habeant ſimilem laudare Britanus,*
" *Sæpe ſolent; nullique parem Cognomine dicunt.*

In *Engliſh* thus,

" *This Houſe the* Britons *praiſe much above all,*
" *And therefore rightly do it* Nonſuch *call.*"

The Account further given us of this Royal Palace is, that when in its Prime, it was ſo ſurrounded with Parks full of Deer, delicate Orchards and Gardens, Groves adorned with Arbours, little Borders and Beds, and Walks ſhaded with Trees, that Pleaſure and Health might juſtly ſeem to have made Choice of this Place to dwell together; but we find this elegant Palace did not continue long in the Poſſeſſion of the Crown after the Death of *Henry* VIII.

For Queen *Mary*, upon her Acceſſion to the Throne, not taking the ſame Fancy to it as her Royal Father had done, thought proper to diſpoſe of *Nonſuch* to one of her Subjects, and this ſhe did to *Henry Fitz-Alen*, Earl of *Arundel*, in Exchange for other Eſtates, who made ſeveral Additions to the Buildings, and repaired thoſe Parts that were then falling to Decay; and particularly his Lordſhip erected there, and furniſhed a moſt noble Library, all which at his Death he left to *George* Lord *Lumley*, who became Lord of this Mahor, and that of *Cheeme*, his Lordſhip having married *Joan*

the

who may properly be ſaid to have a ſort of Right of going into the Park, eſpecially when it is remembered how carefully their Predeceſſors preſerved it from Deſtruction in the Time of the Uſurpation.

And I believe with Truth I can affirm, that it is far from the Deſire of any his Majeſty's faithful Subjects, that the Park ſhould be laid open, or the Game deſtroyed; but on the contrary, ſince there is a Park, nothing

the Earl's eldeſt Daughter. And it is ſaid, that this noble Lord, during his Life, lived in that beautiful Palace in great Splendor ſuitable to his high Station, which gained him great Reſpect from his Neighbours, and at his Death, left it to his Family, who enjoyed it for ſeveral Years, 'till we find it again veſted in the Crown, in the Reign of King *Charles* Iſt. And at that Time the Palace was greatly out of Repair, but by what Means it became ſo veſted, does not appear; however, ſoon after the Death of that unhappy Prince, the Populace fell upon, and deſtroyed this moſt noble Structure, ſo that there is not now hardly one Stone left remaining upon another, which in all Probability would likewiſe have been the Fate of *Richmond* New Park, (which lay but a few Miles from *Nonſuch*) by not having one Brick left upon another, had it fell into the Hands of one of the Park-Lockers-up, inſtead of the City of *London*, who received it from the Parliament as before obſerved.

Oatlands, another Palace which lies about ſeven Miles from *Kingſton*, ſhared the ſame Fate with *Nonſuch*, by being deſtroyed, and the fair Park adjoining to it, well ſtocked with Deer, was diſparked by the Leaders in the late Uſurpation, yet there was ſome Years ſince remaining, Part of the Wall which once encompaſſed ten Acres of Ground. As to the Palace it is quite demoliſhed, ſave ſome Lodgings that one of the Earls of *Dorſet* enjoyed, and the Gardner's Chamber, which was the *Silk-work* Room, erected by Queen *Anne*, Conſort to King *James* Iſt.

Oatlands was antiently a pretty Palace, and when in its Glory, much reſorted to by the Royal Family in the Summer; in the Park there was a Paddock where Queen *Elizabeth* was wont to Shoot with a Croſs Bow, and in this Palace was born *Henry* Duke of *Glouceſter*, youngeſt Son of King *Charles* Iſt, who was allowed by all to be a moſt amiable hopeful young Prince, but he was cut off in the Flower of his Youth, at the Age of Twenty, *Sept.* 13, 1660.

The Rev. Mr. *Lumley Lloyd*, an eminent Floriſt, and late Miniſter of *Covent Garden*, ſome Years ſince commenced a Law-Suit, and recovered his Right to the Manor of *Nonſuch* and *Cheeme*, and that of the great Tythes of *Worceſter* Park, as Impropriator and Heir to *John* Lord *Lumley* above mentioned.

nothing more is ſought after than to have reſtored to them their antient Privileges, which, if obtained, will make them as zealous of bringing to Juſtice any Perſons that ſhould become Treſpaſſers therein, as the moſt ſanguine can be that is now paid for looking after it.

It is therefore wonderful that one of the Governors thereof ſhould behave ſo unkindly to the neighbouring Inhabitants, particularly *Richmond*, to whom he is grown ſo greatly reſerved that he does not care ſo much as to meet them in their collective Body, which he has evidenced on *Aſcenſion Day* laſt, as he has done before, notwithſtanding one of the Church-Wardens, before that Day, ſent a Meſſage by a Perſon belonging to the Park, to inform him of the Deſign of entering it by the People of *Richmond*, as uſual, to mark the Boundaries of their Pariſh therein, and deſired that Step Ladders might be placed againſt the Wall adjoining to the little Gate going up to *Eaſt-Sheene* Common, that they might more eaſily paſs over it, where formerly ſtood a Door for the Inhabitants to go in at, and which had been taken away; but when they came to the Place they ſaw three or four Men ſitting upon the Park Wall, but found no Ladders: So that with Difficulty the Miniſter and other Pariſh Officers with ſome of the principal Inhabitants got into the Park, where they ſoon found the ſame Men mounted on Horſeback placed there, as is preſumed, to ſee what was tranſacting. After the Miniſter, Church-Warden, *&c.* had aſſerted the Rights of their Pariſh, by marking the Boundaries thereof in the Park, they proceeded to the Gate upon *Richmond-Hill*, thro' which they returned from doing their Duty, tho' it is ſaid they were once even deny'd that Liberty, after their antient Privileges were taken from them.

Theſe Proceedings, ſo contrary to that of the moſt arbitrary Countries in *Europe*, where the Royal Parks, *&c.* are open for all the Subjects, ſeems very unaccountable

countable in a Country ſo famous for *Liberty*, and if this ſhould ſtill be ſuffered to continue and the People loſe their Privileges, it may be a Precedent to others, not only to uſe their Endeavours, but totally to deprive them of what they claim a Title to either from *Law*, *Preſcription*, or *Cuſtom*, which in other Reſpects their Anceſtors had before ſpent ſo much Blood and Treaſure to regain, and maintain, and from thence, among other ill Conſequences be the Means, in bad Times, of ſhutting up all the Parks in the Kingdom.

In ſhort, it is to be hoped, that if what is here complained of ſhall, upon Enquiry, be found to be true, the Grievances may be immediately redreſſed, or that ſome Method may be found out, that what is alſo here claimed may be fairly put in Iſſue, in order to be tryed by a proper Jury, and it is not doubted, that all true Lovers of *old Britiſh Liberty* will join in ſupporting ſuch a Cauſe, agreeable to the Laws of the Kingdom.

FINIS.

Preparing for the Preſs,

THE HISTORY of the Town of *Richmond* in *Surry*, the Royal Palaces, Manor, Gardens, *Kew*, and other Parts adjacent. Adorned with ſeveral VIEWS, curiouſly engraved on Copper Plates.